United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit



APPENDIX

75-7673

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

B

MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON, and JANICE AITCHISON, her children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs-Appellees,

-against-

STEPHEN BERGER, individually and as Commissioner the Department of Social Services of the State of New York,

Defendant-Appellant.

On Appeal from the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

JOINT APPENDIX,

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PAGINATION AS IN ORIGINAL COPY

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NEW YORK.

SOCIAL SERVICES OF ROCKLAND COUNTY. -

CAUSE

CIVIL RIGHTS. 42 U.S.C. 1983

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PLAINTIFFS

ATTORNEYS

DOUGLAS J. GOOD LECAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC. 2 Congers Road, New City, New York, 10956 914 634- 3627

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Two Worl Trade Center-NIC 10047 (488-(for deft. Lavine)

DIANA W. RIVET County Atty., Rockland County County Office Building -11 New Hampste New City, N.W. 10956 (914) 638-0500 (for deft. NOAH WEINBERG)

STATISTICAL CARDS FILING FEES PAID DATE MAILE CHECK C.D. NUMBER CARD DATE RECEIPT NUMBER HERE IF CASE VIAS 15-5 1822 MAR 1 2 1975 FILED IN 15-6 FORMA PAUPERIS DC-111 (Ray

•		DOCATE DIVERSE
DATE	NR.	PROCEEDINGS
03-12-75	1	Filed Complaint, Iss ued Summons.
04-03-75	2	Filed summons and return- served the following: Noah Weinberg on 03-25-75 Abe Lavine by Martha Green on 03-18-75
04-18-75	3	Abe Lavine by Martha Green on 03-18-75 Filed ANSWER of deft. Abe Lavine to the complaint (L.J.L.)
04-22-75		to Ou-18-75. So ordered- FRANKEL, J.
04-24-75 04-28-75		Filed stip & order that defts' time to answer the complaint be adjourned from Ch-18-75 to Oh-25-75 and that pltffs' time to file class action motions be adjourned from C5-12-75 to O6-12-75. So ordered-FRANKEL, J. Filed ANSWER of deft. Noah Weinberg, individually and as Commissioner of the (D.W.)
05-27-75	,	Dept. of Social Services of Rockland County to the complaint. Filed pltff's statement pursuant to rule 9(g) and notice of motion for commany
		judgmentRet.7-7-75
		Filed pltff's memorandum of law in maupport of sammary judgment.
05-27-75	BACK NO.	Filed affdvt. & notice of motion by pltff. for class action determinationRet.
05-27-75	10	Filed pltff's memorandum in support of class action motion.
07-08-75	11	Filed stip & order that pltffs' motion pursuant to Rule 56 be adjourned from 07-07- to 08-06-75 that pltffs' motion pursuant to Rule 23 be similarly adjourned from 07-07-75 to 08-06-75 that paragraph 31 of the complaint be amended as indicated. So ordered- FRANKFII.
7-23-75	12	Filed Defts' Lavine's Notice of Cross Motion for summary judgment
7-23-75	13	Filed Defts: Affidavit in opposition to pltffs: class action motion
7-23-75	14	for summary judgment and for class action status and in support of De Lavine's Cross-Motion to dismiss.
08-04-75	15	Filed pltffs' affect. of Rene H. Reixach in opposition to deft. Lavine's motion for summary judgment.
08-04-7	5 16	Filed pltffs' answer to deft. Lavine's Rule 9 (g) statement.
08-04-75		answer indement motion of deft. Levine.
08-22-75	18	Filed Memorandum for Counsel- Opinion # 42992 to assist counsel in preparing for oral argument, the court draws attention to the subjects which counsel should be prepared to treat as indicated. FRANKEL, J. (m/n)
08-28-75	19	Filed pltffs' supllemntal affort. of Rene H. Reixach in supportof motion for class action determination.
9-10-75		Filed Stip & Order that Stephen Berger is substituted for deft Abe Lavine effective on the date of this Stipand other ageed factsFrankel, J.
09-24-75		Filed supplemental memorandum of law in support of state deft's motion for summary judgment and in opposition to pltffs' motion for summary judgment.
10-01-79	2	Filed pltffs' supplemental affdvt. of Rene H. Reirach to correct and update information pertaining to which of the 58 social services districts in N.Y.
10-03-7 10-08-7	5 2	have public assistance allowances, etc. Filed pltffs' supplemental reply memorandum of law. Filed Deft Lavine Affidavit in opposition to pltff's motion for class action status. by Eleanor A.Sochocki.
		-2-
		(CONTIN - PACE #2)

DOCKET ENTRIES

...... ALLON DON, etc. et al- vs- ARE LAVINE, 6:0, et al

(PAGE # 3)

DATE	PROCEEDINGS	Judge
0-09-75	(25) Filed stip & order that the Stipulation entered into on 09-09-75 is	10
0-16-75	(26) Filed pltff's supplemental affort. of Rene H. Reixach to further supplement	
J -31-75	affdvt. dated 09-24-75. (27) Filed pltffs' affdvt. and notice of motion for an order amending the	
-31-13	complaint. Ret. 11-12-75	
-31-75	(28) Filed pltffs' memorandum of law in support of motion to amend.	_
1-07-75	FRANKEL, J. (m/n)	
11-12-75	(29) Filed OPINION # 43380 the basic issues now before the court are whether	
	New York's statutory and regulatory scheme setting income eligibility and retention levels for the medically medy are compatible with applicable federal regulations, and, if not, whether these rederal regulations are	
	themselves inconsistent with the Social Security Act. For the reasons	
	stated, the court declares the state statute and regulations invalid	_
	as applied to class memebers- will enjoin defts. from enforcing these	
	provisions against class members and- will order defts. to compute the	
	entitlements of class members on the basis hereinahove outlines, namely, to protect for maintenance amounts no less than those allowed to comparable	
	ADC recipients. Settle a final decree on notice. FRANKEL, J. (m/n)	_
2-4-75	Filed Memorandum-Decision #43475 & Order. Parties have submitted	_
	differing forms of orders & indoments the difference	_
	flecting two major issues as indicated. Upon the foregoing	
	premises, the court has concluded that the order & 4d-	
	submitted by defts, as modified by the court, should be	
	signed at this time to permit the prompt processing of any	
2-4-75	appealsFRANKEL J m/n Filed Order & Judgment that defts motions to dismiss are denied.	_
2-4-13	Pltffs motion for a class action order is granted, as in-	
	dicated. Pltffs motion for summary judgment is granted, as in-	
	dicated. Pltffs motion for summary judgment is granted. Ordered, that 45 C.F.R. §248.3(c)(1) as applied to the class	
	nerein is declared consistant & therefore valid. N.Y. Social	
	Services Law, as indicated are declared inconsistent & thora	
	fore invalid as applied to the class. Defts, etal are perma-	
	nently enjoined from enforcing N.Y. Social Services Law, as	
	of class members shall be recomputed in conformity with the	_
	provisions of this Order & Judgment within 25 days from the	
	thereof. Deft (Berger) Comm. shall transmit to the Comm's	nc
	thereof. Deft (Berger) Comm. shall transmit to the Comm's of all social services district within the state instructions	
	to conform with the provisions of this Order & Judgment	
	FRANKEL, J Judgment Entered, 12-4-75, Clerk m/n	
2-5-75	Filed deft Stephen Berger's notice of appeal to the USCA from the	
	Order & Judgment of J. Frankel, granting pltffs motion for	_
	a class action & summary judgment on their third claim as	
	amended. Copies sent to: Rene H. Reixach, Greater Up-State	
	Law Project, Monroe County Legal Assistance Corp., 80 West	
	Main St., Rochester N.Y. 14614 Douglas J. Good, Alton L.	
	Ahramowitz, Rockland County Legal Aid Society, 2 Congers Rd. New City, N.Y. 10956 Diane W. Rivet, John B. Franklin,	
2-12-75	11 New Hempstead Rd. New City, N.Y. 10956 Filed pittis arrdyt & notice of motion for leave to appeal in forma	
	pauper 15. Rec. 12-16-75	
	//////// Con't on Page #4	

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DOCKET ENTRIES

FRANKEL,J

	Page, #4	
DATE	PROCEEDINGS	Deta
12-18-75	Filed letter dated October 27-75, from Judith A. Gordon to Judge Frankel. (Suppo	
	exhibits are actached to letter.)	
12-23-75	Filed Memo-End. on motion of 12-12-75. Motion granted. So Ordered	
2-23-75	FRANKEL J m/n Filed Stip & Order amending the Order & Judgment of 12-3-75	-
	FRANKEL, J m/n	
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANTCE AITCHISON, her children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

- against -

ABE LAVINE, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York, and NOAH WEINBERG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York,

Civil Action No.
COMPLAINT
CLASS ACTION
THREE-JUDGE COURT

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JUDGE FRANKE

Defendants.

INTRODUCTION

1. The plaintiffs are the wife and children of a recipient of medical assistance from the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York. Pursuant to Section 356.2 (a) (8) of the New York Social Services Law and regulations of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York, 18 N.Y.C.R.R. § 360.5 (e) (1) (i), they are required to live on a budget \$107.00 per month less than the amount they would receive if they were recipients of public assistance, since the allowance for the family of a medical assistance recipient is \$107.00 per month less than for a public assistance family of the same size with the same expenses for rent. The plaintiffs contend that they are denied equal protection of law in that they are required to live on less than

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

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recipients of public assistance similarly situated, and that the chatlenged statute and regulations are contrary to federal law and regulations. The convening of a three-judge court and class action relief are sought.

JURISDICTION

- 2. Jurisdiction of this action is vested in this Court pursuant to U.S.C. § 1343 subd. (3) and (4), which provide for the jurisdiction of the district courts over civil actions authorized by law to be commenced by any person a) to redress the deprivation, under color of any State law, stature, ordinance, regulation, custom or usage, of any right, privilege or unity quaranteed by the Constitution of the United States or by any Act of Congress providing for equal rights; and b) to secure relief under any Act of Congress providing for the protection of civil rights.
- 3. Jurisdiction of this action is further vested in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (a), watch provides for the jurisdiction of the district courts over cavil actions wherein the matter in controversy exceeds the sum or value of \$10,000 exclusive of interest and costs, and arises under the Constitution or laws of the United States. The amount in controversy herein exceeds the sum or value of \$10,000, exclusive of interest and costs.

PARTIES

4. The plaintiffs are all residents of Rockland County, New York.
within the Southern District of New York. The plaintiff Marion Altchison is the wife of George Aitchison, a disabled 54 year old man who has been

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

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a patient in a nursing home since 1972. The other plaintiffs are her two children, Michael Aitchison, age twenty, a full-time community college student, and Janice Aitchison, age sixteen, a high school student.

- The defendant Abe Lavine is the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York. He is the chief administrator of that department and is responsible for exercising general supervision over the work of all local welfare authorities in New York pursuant to Section 34 of the New York Social Services Law.
- 6. The defendant Noah Weinberg is the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York. He is responsible for the general supervision of that department pursuant to Section 65 of the New York Social Services Law.

CLASS ACTION

- 7. The plaintiffs bring this action pursuant to Rule 23 (b) (2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on behalf of themselves and on behalf of a class of all other persons similarly situated, namely all medically needy persons in the State of New York who are required by the defendants or any local department of social services to live on a monthly income allowance which is below the level of need for public assistance for a family of the same size, with the same expenses for rent, in the particular county.
- 8. The class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable. On information and belief, persons living in the urbanized counties of New York, including New York City, Westchester County, Nassau County,

- 3 -LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

COMPLAINT .

Rockland County, and Monroe County, as well as most other counties in the state, who are dependents of responsible relatives who receive medical assistance as medically indigent persons but who are not eligible for public assistance, are members of the class and number over one hundred thousand. According to "Social Statistics", Vol. 36 no. 10, October, 1974, published by the defendant Abe Lavine, in October, 1974 there were 224,211 persons in New York receiving medical assistance who were not also receiving public assistance (Table 5, p. 4). On information and belief, tens of thousands of those persons, situated like the plaintiffs, are responsible for dependent relatives.

- 9. There are questions of law or fact common to the class, namely whether the schedules of exempt income and minimum reserve for maintaining a family household under the medical assistance program are set at a level which violates federal law and regulations and the Equal Protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The claims of the representative parties are typical of the claims of the class, and the representative parties will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class they are represented by counsel employed by Legal Services Programs who are experienced in welfare litigation and in class actions.
- 10. The parties opposing the class, the defendant Abe Lavine, and his subordinate, the defendant Noah Weinberg, have acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the class, namely under the New York Social Services Law and the regulations thereunder promulgated by the

- 4 -

defendant Abe Lavine, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief and/or corresponding declaratory relief with respect to the class as a whole.

THREE-JUDGE COURT

11. This is a proper case for determination by a three-judge court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2281, 2284 since plaintiff seeks an injunction to restrain defendants, who are state officers, from the enforcement, operation and execution of a state statute Section 366.2 (a) (8) of the New York Social Services Law, and a state regulation, 18 N.Y.C.R.R. § 360.5 (e) (1) (i), both of state-wide applicability on the ground that said statute and regulation are contrary to the Constitution of the United States.

FACTS

- 12. The family household of the plaintiff Marion Aitchison consists of three persons, her and her two children.
- 13. The husband of the plaintiff Marion Aitchison, George Aitchison, has been in a nursing home since 1972.
- 14. On October 17, 1974, the Rockland County Department of Social Services determined that George Aitchison was eligible for medical assistance in a nursing home.
- 15. The total monthly income of the "family household" composed of the plaintiffs is \$312.79. It consists of \$92.59 from a mortgage on real property, plus \$110.10 in Social Security benefits for the plaintiff Marion Aitchison and another \$110.10 in Social Security benefits for the

- 5 LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

Aitchison currently receives \$256.30 each month in disability benefits from the Social Security Administration, plus a pension of \$277.59 each month from Western Electric, for a total monthly income of \$533.89. Mr. Aitchison is allowed to retain \$28.50 per month for his personal expenses pursuant to 18 N.Y.C.R.R. § 360.5 (e), leaving him \$505.39 per month to meet both the maintenance needs of the plaintiffs not met by their income, and his medical expenses. The plaintiff Marion Aitchison and her children the other plaintiffs, are allowed \$333.00 per month on which to live.

16. Pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Social Services, 18 N.Y.C.R.R. § 350.5 (e) (1) (i), and Section 366.2 (a) (8) of the New York Social Services Law, applied by the Rockland County Department of Social Services, Mr. Aitchison's income may be used to meet the maintenance needs of the plaintiffs only to the extent of \$20.21 per month, the amount required to bring the plaintiffs' family income to a level of \$333.00 per month; \$485.15, the rest of his monthly income (but for an additional monthly allowance of \$20.80 for the plaintiffs' visits to him in the nursing home) is to be applied to his medical expenses.

17. The basis living allowance for a three person household receiving public assistance in New York State is \$200.00 per month pursuant to New York Social Services Law § 131-a (3) and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. § 352.2 (e).

18. The rental allowance for a three person household receiving public assistance in Rockland is the actual amount of rent paid, not in

excess of \$243.00 per month.

- 19. The plaintiff Marion Aitchison pays \$240.00 per month for rent.
- 20. The public assistance standard of need for the plaintiffs is \$440.00 per month, consisting of a basic grant of \$200.00 and a rent allowance of \$240.00.
- 21. Under the medical assistance program the plaintiffs' family household is allowed an amount on which to live that is \$107.00 less than the public assistance level for a three person household with the same rent; i.e. \$333.00 rather than \$440.00.
- 22. The plaintiff Marion Aitchison requested an administrative fair hearing to review the determination by the Rockland County Department of Social Services that the plaintiffs are allowed only \$333.00 per month for the needs of the family household (plus an additional \$20.80 per month for the cost of visits to Mr. Aitchison), and on November 14, 1974 that hearing was held before a hearing officer duly designated by the defendant Abe Lavine.
- 23. The December 18, 1974, fair hearing decision of the Commissione of the New York State Department of Social Services, the defendant Abe Lavine, affirmed the determination of the local department (a copy of the decision is annexed hereto as "Exhibit A").
- 24. In so administering the medical assistance program in New York, the defendant Abe Lavine is responsible for administering a fund of over 1.5 billion dollars a year, of which, on information and belief, approx-

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LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

who receive medical assistance only and do not receive cash public assistance. The schedules challenged herein result in millions of dollar of underpayments from the medical assistance fund each year where such medical assistance recipients have dependents who are required to live below the public assistance level under the challenged statute and regulations.

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25. The plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

- 26. The plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 25 herein.
- 27. The defendants' policies which require the plaintiffs to exist on a budget \$107.00 less than the applicable public assistance standard of need, including rent and fuel, violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 28. The plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 27 herein.
- 29. The defendants' standards for determining the amount of income the plaintiffs may retain for non-medical needs are not reasonable standards comparable for all groups, in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1396-a (a) (17).

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

30. The plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation

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contained in paragraphs 1 through 29 herein.

31. The levels of income for maintenance established and utilized by the defendants are less than the most liberal money payment standard used by the State of New York at any time on or after January 1, 1966, as a measure of financial eligibility in any categorical money payment program in the State in violation of 45 C.F.R. §§ 248.21 (a) (i) (b) and 248.21 (a) (3) (i) (c).

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 32. The plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation contained in Paragraphs 1 through 31 herein.
- 33. The defendants are violating the Supremacy Clause, Article VI, clause 2, of the Constitution of the United States.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

- 34. The plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 33 herein.
- 35. The defendants, acting under color of statutes and regulations of the State of New York, are depriving the plaintiffs of rights, privi and immunities secured by the Constitution and laws in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiffs demand judgment:

- 1. Determining that this action is maintainable as a class action pursuant to Rules 23 (a) and 23 (b) (2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;
- 2. Enjoining, after the convening of a three-judge court, pursuan to 28 U.S.C. §§ 2281 et seq. on the constitutional claims, or by a sin LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

judge on the other claims, the defendants' continued use and reliance on the tables of exempt income in Section 366.2 (a) (8) of the New York Social Services Law and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. § 360.5 (e) or any other standards, insofar as they are less than the applicable public assistance standards for the persons required to exist thereon;

- 3. Declaring, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§2201 et seq. that the defendants' policies as set forth in Section 366.2 (a) (8) of the New York Social Services Law and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. § 360.5 (e) are illegal and unconstitutional and null and void, to the extent that they require persons to live below the applicable public assistance level;
- 4. Requiring the defendant Abe Lavine to immediately promulgate new standards for all local social services commissioners not inconsistent with the Constitution, federal law and regulations as herein determined, and to promptly notify all local social services commissioners of same;
- 5. Awarding the plaintiffs costs and disbursements herein, plus reasonable attorneys' fees;
- 6. Awarding such other and further relief as seems proper and just.

 Dated: March 4, 1975

 New City, New York

Respectfully submitted,

THE RESERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY.

DOUGLAS . GOOD, Esq.
ALTON L. ABRAMONITZ, Esq.
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Attorneys for Plaintiff

ANSWER OF DEFENDANT LAVINE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

: ANSWER

ABE LAVINE, individually and as Commissioner: 75 Civ. 1224 of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York, and ABAH WEINBERG, individually, and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Ruckland County, New York,

(MEF)

Defendants.

Defendant, ABE LAVINE, for an answer to the cor laint of Marion Aitchison, et al., by and through his attorney, LOUIS J. LEPROWITZ, Attorney General of the State of New York, respectfully alleges:

- 1. Denies each and every material allegation set forth in paragraphs "2", "3", "7-11", "27", "29", "31", "33", and "35" thereof.
- 2. Lacks knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief with respect to each and every allegation in paragraphs "13", "14", "18", "19", "20", "21" and "25" thereof.
- 3. With respect to the allegations in paragraph "1", deny each and every allegation therein which states or implies that plaintiffs' constitutional or other federally protected rights have been abridged or violated.
- 4. Admit/the allegations set forth in paragraph "15" hereof; except state further on information and belief that the igures set forth therein are not an exhaustive listing of the ncome resources available to Plaintiff Aitchison and her family. coording to records of Defendant Weinberg, plaintiff received 2,579.20 as a social security award for her husband's disability; plaintiff also has two life insurance policies.

ANSUER OF DEFENDANT LAVINE

- 5. With respect to the allegations in paragraph "17", admit only to the extent of the verbatim content of the New York State statute and regulation set forth therein.
- deny insofar as they state or imply that plaintiff's constitutional or other federally protected rights have been abridged or violated.
- 7. With respect to paragraphs "26", "28", "30", "32", and "34" repeat the pleadings of this answer pertinent to the paragraphs of the complaint set forth therein.

AS AND FOR A FIRST SEPARATE AND COMPLETE AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE ALLEGES THAT:

- 8. In addition to the income resources set forth in paragraph "15" of their complaint, the Aitchison family, according to records of Defendant Weinberg, also has available and has been allowed to retain \$2,579.20 in monies from a social security award granted on October 3, 1973 for her husband's disability. Plaintiff also has two life insurance policies in the amounts of \$6,000 and \$1,000 respectively.
- 9. Accordingly, plaintiff's resources to meet her putily living expenses is actually in excess of the amount alleged by her -- namely, \$333.00.
- Plaintiff Aitchison lacks standing to present her claims.

AS AND FOR A SECOND SEPARATE AND COMPLETE AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE ALLEGES THAT:

11. Plaintiff Aitchison fails to set forth a sufficient basis for the maintenance of a class action.

ALISTER OF DEFENDANT LAVINE

 Plaintiffs fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted.

> AS AND FOR A FOURTH SEPARATE AND COMPLETE AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE ALLEGES THAT:

13. Plaintiffs fail to set forth a sufficient basis for the exercise of federal jurisdiction.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that the complaint be in all respects discussed.

Dated: New York, New York April 17, 1975

LOUIS J. LEFROWITZ
Attorney General of the
State of New York
Attorney for Defendant Lavine
By:

DAVID R. SPIEGEL
Assistant Attorney General
Office and .O. Address
Two World Trade Center
New York, New York 10047
Tel. No. (212) 488-7591

ANSWER OF DEFENDANT WEINBERG
ONLING DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ABE LAVINE, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York, and ABAH WEINBERG, individually, and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York,

ANSWER

75 Civ. 1224 (MEF)

Defendants.

The Defendant NOAH WEINBERG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, sued herein as ABAH WEINBERG, by his attorney, DIANA W. RIVET, County Attorney of the County of Rockland as and for his answer to the complaint herein:

- 1. Denies each and every allegaion contained in the paragraphs designated "2", "3", "7", "8", "9", "10", "11", "27", "29", "31", "33" and "35" of the complaint herein.
- 2. Denies each and every allegation contained in the paragraph designated "1" of the complaint herein insofar as the said paragraph alleges, states or implies that Plaintiffs' constitutional or other federally protected rights have been abridged or violated. -19

ANSWER OF DEFENDANT WEINEERG

- 3. Denies each and every allegation contained in the paragraph designated "24" of the complaint herein insofar as said paragraph alleges, states or implies that Plaintiffs' constitutional or other federally protected rights have been abridged or violated.
- 4. Denies any knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in the paragraph designated "25" of the complaint herein.
- 5. With respect to the paragraphs designated "26", "28", "30", "32" and "34" of the complaint herein, Defendant Weinberg repeats and realleges each and every denial heretofore made herein of the paragraphs realleged and reiterated by the Plaintiff.

AS AND FOR A FIRST, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE DEFENSE

6. Plaintiffs fail to set forth a sufficient basis for the exercise of federal jurisdiction.

AS AND FOR A SECOND, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE DEFENSE

7. Plaintiffs fail to set forth sufficient facts to constitute a cause of action for which relief might be granted.

AS AND FOR A THIRD, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE DEFENSE

8. Plaintiffs fail to set forth sufficient facts to constitute a base for the maintenance of a class action.

ANSWER OF DEFENDANT WEINBERG AS AND FOR A FOURTH, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE DEFENSE

- 9. The basic criteria for qualification under the Medicaid category of public assistance are widely different from those basic criteria for qualification for public assistance such as Home Relief and Aid to Dependent Children.
- permit the local Department of Social Services to take a mortgage on premises owned by an applicant to the extent of all assistance rendered or to be rendered. In addition the eligibility criteria for public assistance permits practically no retention of assets o any kind, i.e. assets of any kind must be considered and eitner used or made available to the applicant prior to qualification of public assistance.
- permit a mortgage to be taken on real property owned by a prospective applicant and in addition certain assets are exempt from conseration for eligibility purposes. For example, an applicant is permitted a burial reserve of \$500 per person in the household to a maximum of \$2000. Such burial reserve may consist of cash, other liquid assets or cash value of life insurance policies. In addition a prespective applicant for Medicaid coverage is permitted a savings exemption which increases with the size of the family so that a family of four would be permitted to have cash savings of \$2500 in addition

ANSWER OF DEFENDANT WEINEERG to the burial reserve heretofore referred to, a total of \$4500. the maximum of \$4500 (for a family of four) increases as the size of a family increases.

- 12. There can hardly be a comparison between Medicaid coverage and public assistance when the basic criteria for eligibility differ. The differing basis for retention of assets permits a Medicaid recipient greater security in terms of cash and retained assets.
- 13. It would appear that the schedules of income permitted an applicant, though differing as between Medicaid recipients and straight public assistance recipients, differ because of the asset base permitted the two types of applicants.
- 14. Upon information and belief on an actuarial basis the applicants for the respective types of assistance enjoy the equal protection of law.

FOR A FIFTH, SEPARATE AND COMPLETE DEFENSE

- 15. Plaintiff MARION AITCHISON received social security disability award (as did other members of the family) on or about October 3, 1973, and same was not immediately reported to the Department of Social Services as required.
- 16. The Department of Social Services ascertained the above information through another source.
- 17. Plaintiff claimed that she used the said check to pay a debt to a brother which had accrued in 1968, and

ANSWER OF DEFENDANT WEINEERG produced a cancelled check bearing date of October 8, 1973 in proof thereof.

- 18. Plaintiff got the benefit of said monies without any reduction in aid from the Department of Social Services.
- 19. In addition Plaintiff has gotten the benefit over the years of retaining insurance policies in the amount of \$600 and \$1000 respectively which is upon information and beliefgreater than the burial reserve which should be permitted in such matters.
- 20. Plaintiff invokes the aid of the Court with unclean hands.

21. Plaintiffs' case is unique and not common to a class. WHEREFORE, Defendant Weinberg respectfully prays for judgment dismissing the complaint herein with costs and for such other and further relief as to the Court might seem just and proper.

Dated: April 25, 1975 New City, New York

DIANA W. RIVET
County Attorney, County of
Rockland
Attorney for Defendant Weinberg
Office & P.O. Address
County Office Building
11 New Hempstead Road
New City, New York 10956
Tel. No. (914) 638 0500

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, Individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANICE AITCHISON, her minor children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated, :

Plaintiffs.

-against-

ABE LAVINE, as Commissioner of the : Department of Social Services of : the State of New York and NOAH : WEINBERG, as Commissioner of the : Department of Social Services of : Rockland County, New York, :

Defendants.

75 Civ. 1224 MEF

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

SIRS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that upon the annexed statement pursuant to rule 9(g), the annexed affidavit of Rene H. Reixach, Esq., and all other proceedings herein, the plaintiffs will move this Court before the Honorable Marvin E. Frankel, United States District Judge, at the United States Courthouse, Foley Square, New York, New York, on the day of June, 1975, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, for an order pursuant to Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, granting the plaintiffs summary judgment on their third claim, namely that the levels of income for maintenance established and utilized by the defendants violate 45 C.F.R. sections 248.21(a)(3)(i)(B)

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

and (c), and for such other and further relief as seems proper and just.

Dated: May 23, 1975

Yours, etc.

DOUGLAS J. GOOD, ESQ. ALTON L. ABROMOWITZ, ESQ. LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF

ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

2 Congers Road P.O. Box 314

New City, New York 10956 Tel: 914-634-3627

RENE H. REIXACH, ESQ.
MARGARET MAHONEY, ESQ.
GREATER UP-STATE LAW PROJECT
MONROE COUNTY LEGAL
ASSISTANCE CORPORATION
80 West Main Street
Rochester, New York 14614
Tel: 716-454-6500

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

TO: HON. LOUIS J. LEFKOWITZ
Attorney General of the
State of New York
Attn: David R. Spiegel, Esq.
Two World Trade Center
New York, New York 10047

DIANA W. RIVET, ESQ. County Attorney County Office Building 11 New Hempstead Road New City, New York 10956

Attorneys for Defendants

PLAINTIFFS' STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 9(g) IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, Individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANICE AITCHISON, her minor children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ABE LAVINE, as Commissioner of the : Department of Social Services of : the State of New York and NOAH : WEINBERG, as Commissioner of the : Department of Social Services of : Rockland County, New York, :

Defendants.

75 Civ. 1224 MEF

STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 9(g)

Plaintiffs contend that there is no genuine issue to be tried with respect to the following material facts:

- 1. The plaintiffs are the wife and two children, age twenty and sixteen and both full-time students, of a disabled 54 year old man who has been a nursing home patient since 1972 and who receives medical assistance from the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York.
- 2. The defendants are the commissioners of the Departments of Social Services of the State of New York and of Rockland County, New York.
- 3. On October 17, 1974, the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York determined that the husband of the adult plaintiff and the father of the two minor plaintiffs was eligible for medical assistance in a nursing home.

PLAINTIFFS' STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 9 (g) IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

- 4. The plaintiffs, a family household of three, are allowed a total income of \$333.00 per month on which to live, pursuant to section 366.2(a)(8) of the New York Social Services Law and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. 360.5(e)(1)(i).
- 5. The rublic assistance standard of need for the plaintiffs is \$440.00 per month, consisting of a three person basic allowance of \$200.00 per month and a rental allowance of \$240.00 per month, the accual rent paid by the adult plaintiff.
- 6. Under the medical assistance income allowances the plaintiffs are allowed \$107.00 per month less than the public assistance standard of need for the plaintiffs.
- 7. In some counties in New York State the total public assistance standard of need, including rent and (where applicable) heat, is never in excess of the income allowances under the medical assistance program set forth in section 366.2(a)(8) of the New York Social Services Law.
- 8. In other counties in New York State at some, but not all, family sizes, the total public assistance standard of need, including rent and (where applicable) heat, can exceed the income allowances under the medical assistance program set forth in section 366.2(a)(8) of the New York Social Services Law.
- 9. In Rockland County and certain other counties in New York State, at all family sizes, the total public assistance standard of need, including rent and (where applicable) heat, can exceed the income allowances under the medical assistance program

PLAINTIFFS' STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 9 (g) IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

set forth in section 366.2(a)(8) of the New York Social Services Law.

New York the defendant Lavine is responsible for administering a fund of which millions of dollars annually is used to provide medical assistance for persons not receiving cash public assistance, and if the schedules challenged herein are illegal they result in millions of dollars of underpayments from the medical assistance fund each year.

DOUGLAS J. GOOD, ESQ.
ALTON L. ABROMOWITZ, ESQ.
LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF
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2 Congers Road
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RENE H. REIXACH, ESQ.
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80 West Main Street
Rochester, New York 14614
Tel: 716-454-6500

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

AFFIDAVIT OF RENE H. REIXACH, SWOPN TO MAY 20, 1975, IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, Individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANICE AITCHISON, her minor children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ABE LAVINE, as Commissioner of the:
Department of Social Services of:
the State of New York and NOAH:
WEINBERG, as Commissioner of the:
Department of Social Services of:
Rockland County, New York,

Defendants.

75 Civ. 1224 MEF

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF MONROE) SS:

RENE H. REIXACH, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am a member of the Bar of this Court and one of the attorneys for the plaintiffs herein; I make this affidavit in support of the plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment. In addition to the matters referred to herein, the Court is respectfully referred to my affidavit of May 19th in support of the plaintiffs' class action motion and the affidavit of James Reynolds in support thereof.
- 2. The crux of this action is that the plaintiffs and many other persons in New York State are allowed levels of income under the medical assistance program which are below the applicable standards of need for cash assistance under New York's

AFFIDAVIT OF RENE H. REIXACH, SWORN TO MAY 20, 1975, IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MCTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

public assistance programs. The facts are not in dispute; all of the relevant facts have been pleaded in the complaint (Exhibit "A" annexed) and admitted by the defendants in their answer (Exhibits "B" and "C" annexed).

- 3. The plaintiffs are the wife and two children, age twenty and sixteen and both full-time students, of a disabled 54 year old man who has been a nursing home patient since 1972 and who received medical assistance from the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York. (Complaint, ¶¶1, 4; Lavine answer ¶3 and otherwise not denied; Weinberg answer, ¶2 and otherwise not denied).
- 4. The defendants are the Commissioners of the Departments of Social Services of the State of New York and of Rockland County, New York. (Complaint, 195 and 6; not denied).
- 5. On October 17, 1974, the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York, determined that Mr.

 Aitchison was eligible for medical assistance in a nursing home.

 (Complaint, ¶14; not denied in Weinberg answer; Defendant Lavine alleges lack of sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief, but see Fair Hearing transcript at p. 3, Exhibit H to my affidavit in support of class action motion).
- 6. The plaintiffs, a family household of three, are allowed \$333.00 income each month for non-medical needs, presuant to section 366.2(a)(8) of the New York Social Services Law and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. section 360.5(e)(1)(i). (Complaint, 1915, 16; Lavine answer 94 admits as to 915 of the complaint and 916 of the

AFFIDAVIT OF RENE H. REIXACH, SWORN TO MAY 20, 1975, IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

complaint is not denied; not denied in Weinberg answer).

- 7. The public assistance standard of need for the plaintiffs is \$440.00 per month, consisting of a three person basic allowance of \$200.00 per month and a rental allowance of \$240.00 per month, the actual rent paid by Mrs. Aitchison. (Complaint, ¶¶17-20; not denied in Weinberg answer; Defendant Lavine does not deny ¶17 of complaint but in ¶2 of his answer alleges lack of sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief, but see Fair Hearing transcript at pp. 6-8, Exhibit H, to my affidavit in support of class action motion).
- 8. Under the medical assistance income allowances the plaintiffs are allowed \$107.00 per month less than the public assistance standard of need for the plaintiffs. (Complaint, ¶21; not denied in Weinberg answer; Defendant Lavine in ¶2 of his answer alleges lack of sufficient knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief, but see Fair Hearing transcript at p.8, Exhibit H, to my affidavit in support of class action motion).
- 9. In some counties of New York the medical assistance income allowances are always higher than the public assistance standard of need, in others the medical assistance income allowances are sometimes higher and sometimes can be lower than the public assistance standard of need, and in Rockland and other counties the medical assistance income allowances always can be lower than the public assistance standard of need (See my affidavit in support of class action notion ¶¶ 15, 17).

AFFIDAVIT OF RENE H. REIXACH, SWORN TO MAY 20, 1975, IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

- 10. In administering the public assistance program in New York the defendant Lavine is responsible for administering a fund of which millions of dollars annually is used to provide medical assistance for persons not receiving cash public assistance, and if the schedules challenged herein are illegal they result in millions of dollars of underpayments from the medical assistance fund each year. (Complaint, ¶24; Lavine answer, ¶6; Weinberg answer ¶3).
- ll. From the foregoing it is apparent that New York's medical assistance income allowances are less than the "most liberal money payment standard" used by New York "as a measure of financial eligibility in any categorical money payment program" in New York, as required by 45 C.F.R. section 248.21(a)(3)(1)(B).
- violating 45 C.F.R. section 248.3(c)(1)(ii), which requires that income levels for maintenance be "as a minimum, at the higher of the levels of the payment standards generally used as a measure of financial eligibility in the money payment programs" in a state. This is made clear in a listing of compliance problems with New York's social services programs during the quarter ending March 31, 1975, which, on information and belief, was supplied by the New York Regional Office of the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, a copy of which is annexed as Exhibit "D."

AFFIDAVIT OF RENE H. REIXACH, SWORN TO MAY 20, 1975, IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

WHEREFORE, I pray that the plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment be granted.

RENE H. REIXACH

Sworn to before me this

20 day of May, 1975.

Sharon Trusololl

Notary Public, State of N. Y., Monroe County
No. 4517304
Commission Expires March 30, 1975

FAIR BEARING DECISION, RE: PLAINTIFF MARION AITCHISON, EXHIBIT A (PART) TO REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF MAY 20

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

In the Matter of the Appeal of

DECISION AFTER

MARION AITCHISON

PAIR HEARING

from a determination by the Rockland County Department of Social Services (hereinafter called the agency).

A fair hearing was held at Pomona, New York, on November 14, 1974, before William R. Meyers Hearing Officer, on which the appellant, the appellant's daughter, and a representative of the agency appeared. The appeal is from a determination by the agency relating to the adequacy of medical assistance. An opportunity to be heard having been accorded all interested parties and the evidence having been taken and due deliberation having been had, it is hereby found:

- (1) The appellant's husband has been confined to a nursing home since 1972. The family consists of appellant, her husband and two minor dependent children.
- (2) The appellant's husband is in receipt of medical assistance. The agency is requiring the appellant to contribute to the cost of his care in the nursing home.
- (3) The appellant's husband receives \$256.30 in social security and income from a mortgage of \$92.59 a month for total income of \$348.89, which is being used toward payment of his medical expenses. Appellant has income from social security and her husband's pension totaling \$497.97 a month. Appellant has no deductions for income taxes, health insurance premiums or court ordered support payments.

Section 360.5(e) of the Regulations of the State Department of Social Services provides the a person in chronic care shall not be deemed to be a member of any household and shall be allowed an exemption of \$28.50 per month from his net income for personal expenses.

This section further provides that a person in chronic care with three dependent relatives must use \$4,000. annually for \$333. monthly of his income for support of his relatives, less an income possessed by such relatives. Since appellant has a net monthly income of \$497.79, all o appellant's husband's income, less \$28.50 per month must be used to meet his medical expenses.

The appellant's husband is a legally responsible relative and she has an obligation to contribute to his medical expenses. This obligation is spelled out in Section 360.7 of the Reg lations. Pursuant to that section, appellant has an exemption of \$333. per month and all of he net income in excess of that amount, \$164.79, must be contributed to the cost of appellant's husband's medical expenses. However, this same section provides that the amount actually received shall be applied toward meeting the needs of the appellant's husband. This is in accord with Section 366.3(a) of the Social Services Law which provides that:

(PART) TO REIXACE AFFIDAVIT OF MAY 20

MARION AITCHISON (2)

"Medical assistance shall be furnished to applicants in cases where, although such applicant has a responsible relative with sufficient income and resources to provide medical assistance as determined by the Regulations of the Department, the income and resources of the responsible relative are not available to such applicant because of the absence of such relative or the refusal or failure of such relative to provide the necessary care and assistance. In such cases, however, the furnishing of such assistance shall create an implied contract with such relatives, and the cost thereof may be recovered from such relative in accordance with title six of article three and other applicable provisions of law."

Although the appellant has not contributed to the cost of her husband's medical care, the agency must continue medical assistance in light of the above provisions of the Social Services Law.

DECISION: The determination of the agency is affirmed.

DATED: Albany, New York DEC 1 8 1974

Abe Lavine COMMISSIONER

Carmen Shang
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

LETTER FROM ELMER W. SMITH, REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF HEW TO GERALD A. NORLANDER, ESQ., DATED HAY 7, 1975, WITH COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS, EXHIBIT D TO REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF MAY 20



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARRECEIVED

FEDERAL BUILDING
25 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK; NEW YORK 10007
May 7, 1975

MAY 9 1975

LEGAL AID SOCIETY MOURT VERNON, N. Y.

Mr. Gerald A. Norlander
The Legal Aid Society of
Westchester County
Mount Vernon Branch Office
City Hall - Roosevelt Square
Mount Vernon, New York 10550

Dear Mr. Norlander:

You requested copies of correspondence to New York State listing compliance issues raised by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

The attached material reflects questions raised on State Compliance with Federal requirements for the quarter ending March 31, 1975.

Sincerely,

Elmer W. Smith Regional Commissioner

Judith Rackmill

Enclosure

Exhib:+ D=36-

LETTER FROM EIMER W. SMITH, REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF HEW TO GERALD NORLANDER, ESQ., DATED MAY 7, 1975, WITH COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS, EXHIBIT TO REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF 124 20 HEW YORK

Questions raised on State compliance with Federal requirements Harch

Medical Services Program

Section 1902(a)(4) - SSA Section 1902(a)(20) - SSA Section 299B of PL 92-603

Medical Services Program

Scction 1905(a)(4)(B) - SSA SKS-PR-40-11(C-4) CFR 249.10(a)(3)(iii) and (iv)

Medical Services Program

SRS-PR-10-15(c-4)

Medical Services Program

Section 1902(a)(4)(a) - SSA SRS-PR-40-14(c-1) 45 CFR-250.80(a)(4)(i)&(ii)(6)&(7) Administration of Assistance for Aged and Individuals Under 21 in Mental Institutions
The State does not meet Federal requirements for staffing of the Medical Assistance Unit for the administration of the program for assistance for aged individuals and individuals under 21 in mental institutions.

EPSDT.

State has failed to rully implament the EFSDT Program for the 6-21 year olds in New York City. 470,000 eligible individuals are in this population group.

Sterilization

State regulations did not conform with Federal requirements. The State has since revised its position. The R.O. has 'm assured by the New York epartment of Social Services that the governor signed the amendment and that it is in the process of being mailed. However, to date the R.O. has not received it.

Fraud

Some investigatory work is going on at the local social services level throughout the State and particularly in New York City with regard to alleged Medicaid abuse and fraud. However, the reporting system is inadequate both at the local/State and State/SRS levels. State agency does not have in place adequate procedures for reporting information on provider abuse and fraud to SRS.

LETTER FROM ELMER W. SMITH, REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF HEW TO GERALD A.
NORLANDER, ESQ., DATED MAY 7, 1975, WITH COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS, EXHIBIT
D TO REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF MAY 20
Medical Services Program

Medically Needy Level

45 CFR 248.3(c)(i)(ii)(B)(2) Section 1903(f)(1)(B)(i) of SSA

Due to a series of factors, the cash assistance standards have become more liberal than the MA standards for most family sizes. LETTER FROM ELMER W. SMITH, REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF HEW TO GERALD A. NORLANDER, ESQ., DATED MAY 7, 1975, WITH COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS, EXHIBIT D TO REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF MAY 20

NEW YORK STATE

QUESTIONS RAISED ON STATE COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

MARCH 31, 1975

Manpower Development & Training

45CFR205.202 Titles IVA and XIX

45CFR220.10

45CFR222.8

Practice issue. Educational Leave policies suspended; Legislature failed to appropriate funds

LETTER FROM ELMER W. SMITH, REGIONAL CONFISSIONER OF NEW TO GERALD A. NORLANDER, ESQ., DATED MAY /, 19/5, WITH COMPLIANCE QUESTIONS, EXHIBIT D TO RELIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF MAY 20 April 4, 1975

NEW YORK

Questions Raised on State Compliance with Federal Requirements

Assistance Payments

45 CFR 233.20(a)(2)

45 CFR 233,20(a)(2) 402 (a)(23) State-wide Shelter Standard Practice issue. Failure to implement a new shelter standard submitted and approved during the January-March, 1974, quarter.

Up-dating shelter standard
Practice issue. Local maximums
were up-dated where necessary
as part of the development of the
proposed State-wide standard.
Some but not all counties requiring
up-dating have come into compliance.

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION FOR CLASS ACTION DETERMINATION.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION TICHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ABE LAVINE, et al.,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 75 Civ. 1224
MEF

NOTICE OF CLASS ACTION MOTION

SIRS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that upon the annexed affidavits of Rene H. Reixach, Esq., and James Reynolds, and all prior proceedings herein, the plaintiffs will move this Court before the Hon. Marvin E. Frankel, at the United States Courthouse, Foley Square, New York, New York, at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon on the day of June, 1975, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, for an Order pursuant to Rule 23(c)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure determining that this action be maintained as a class action under Rules 23(a) and 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and for such other and further relief as seems proper and just.

Dated: May 29, 1975

PLAINTIFFS' NOTICE OF MOTION FOR CLASS ACTION DETERMINATION

Yours, etc.

DOUGLAS J. GOOD, ESQ.
ALTON L. ABROMOWITZ, ESQ.
LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF
ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.
2 Congers Road
P.O. Box 314
New City, New York 10956
Tel: 914-634-3627

RENE H. REIXACH, ESQ.
MARGARET MAHONEY, ESQ.
GREATER UP-STATE LAW PROJECT
MONROE COUNTY LEGAL
ASSISTANCE CORPORATION
80 West Main Street
Rochester, New York 14614
Tel: 716-454-6500

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

TO: HON. LOUIS J. LEFKOWITZ
Attorney General of the
State of New York
Attn: David R. Spiegel, Esq.
Two World Trade Center
New York, New York 10047

County Attorney
Attn: Diana W. Rivet, Esq.
County Office Building
11 Hempstead Road
New City, New York 10956

Attorneys for Defendants

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ABE LAVINE, et al.,

Defendants.

75 Civ. 1224 MEF

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEW YORK) SS:

RENE H. REIXACH, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am a member of the ar of this Court and one of the attorneys for the plaintiffs; I make this affidavit in support of the plaintiffs' motion for a determination that this action be maintained as a class action under Rules 23(a) and 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

THE NATURE OF THE CASE

- 2. The plaintiffs are challenging the validity of New York's schedules for determining the amounts of income persons are allowed to meet their non-medical needs under New York's medical assistance "medicaid" program. A copy of the complaint is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A."
- 3. The plaintiffs are allowed \$107.00 per month less on which to live than if they were on public assistance. The husband of the plaintiff Marion Aitchison is in a nursing home

and his wife and children are allowed \$333.00 per month to meet their own needs under New York's medical assistance program. If they were receiving public assistance their needs would be \$440.00 per month, or \$107.00 per month more than the amount allowed them under medicaid.

4. They contend that the tables of exempt income in New York Social Services Law section 366.2(a)(8) and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. section 360.5(e) are unconstitutional insofar as they are less than the applicable public assistance standards for persons having the same family composition and shelter expenses. The plaintiffs also contend that to the extent those tables are less than the applicable public assistance standards they are unlaw 1, being below the most liberal money payment standard used as a measure of financial eligibility in any categorical money payment program, in violation of 45 C.F.R. sections 248.21(a)(3)(1)(b) and 248.21(a)(3)(1)(c); and the plaintiffs further contend that such standards are not reasonable, in violation of 42 U.S.C. section 1396a(a)(17).

DEFINITION OF THE CLASS

5. The plaintiffs seek to represent the following class, as defined in paragraph 7 of their complaint: all medically needy persons in the State of New York who are required by the defendants or any local department of social services to live on a monthly income allowance which is below the level of need for

AFFIDAVIT OF RENE H. REIMACH, SWORN TO MAY 19, 1975, IN SUPPORT OF CLASS ACTION DETERMINATION public assistance for a family of the same size, with the same expenses for rent, in the particular county.

RULE 23(a)(1) - NUMEROSITY

- 6. Rule 23(a)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure requires that "the class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable;" that standard is amply met here.
- 7. On information and belief, based on "Social Statistics," Vol. 37 no. 1, January, 1975, published by the Department of Social Services of the State of New York, of which the defendant Abe Lavine is Commissioner, in January, 1975, there were 185,083 persons in New York receiving medical assistance who were not also receiving public assistance (Table 5, p.4; copy annexed as Exhibit "B").
- 8. The medical assistance tables of allowances in Social Services Law section 366.2(a)(8) and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. section 360.5(e) which are challenged are set forth below, on both an annual and monthly basis:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Annual income \$2500 3400 4000 5000 5700 6400 7200 7800

Monthly income 208 283 333 417 475 533 600 650

9. The class includes all persons whose monthly level of need under public assistance would be higher than the monthly income limit under the table set out in paragraph 8 above. For example, in the case of the named plaintiffs, a family of three,

they are members of the class since their monthly public assistance level of need would be in excess of \$333.00, the amount allowed a family of three under the challenged table. Their monthly standard of need would in fact be \$440.00, some \$107.00 higher than allowed under the medical assistance tables.

- 10. The public assistance level of need in New York is a total of several items: a standardized state-wide basic allowance designed to meet needs such as food, clothing and the like; an allowance for rent up to a maximum amount based on a rent schedule filed by each local department of social services with the State Department of Social Services; and, where the rent does not include heat, an additional allowance for fuel for heating which varies depending on the county of residence pursuant to 18 N.Y.C.R.R. section 352.5(a).
- 11. The basic allowance for a family is set out in New York Social Services Law section 131-a(3) and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. section 352.2(e). In the case of the plaintiffs, a family of three, the basic allowance is \$200.00 per month.
- 12. In Rockland County the maximum rent allowance for a family of three where heat is included in the rent is \$243.00. The plaintiffs' rent (including heat) is \$240.00. Thus their total allowance would be the sum of \$200.00 and \$240.00, or \$440.00 per month.
- 13. It is thus apparent that in order to determine the scope of the class the levels of allowance for rent and heat,

on a county basis, added to the basic allowance, must be compared to the medical assistance tables of allowances. The class includes all those persons whose public assistance allowance (basic + rent + heat) exceeds the medical assistance allowance. They may be required to live below the public assistance level if they are required to live at the levels of the challenged medicaid allowances.

- in each county which I obtained from the New York State Department of Social Services in early March, 1975, James Reynolds, a VISTA paralegal employed in my office, has completed a series of charts to show in what counties, and what sizes of family in those counties, are potential class members. A copy of a chart I obtained from the New York State Department of Social Services showing those rent allowances is annexed as Exhibit "C". The methodology used by Mr. Reynolds, which I devised, is as follows:
 - a) The basic allowance portion of the public assistance allowance being fixed uniformly state-wide, based on family size, and the medical assistance standard likewise being the same state-wide based on family size, a standard figure by which the medical assistance standard exceeds the public assistance basic

allowance can be calculated for all family sizes. This is shown in column 5 of the charts annexed to Mr. Reynolds' affidavit, and is the difference between the basic allowances set forth in New York Social Services Law section 131(a)(3) and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. section 352.2(e) and the comparable medical assistance standards set forth in New York Social Services Law section 366.2(a)(8) and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. section 360.5(e) (the medical assistance annual amounts having been divided by twelve and rounded to the nearest whole dollar to provide a monthly allowance). A chart showing those calculations is annexed as Exhibit "D". The chart does not cover families of over eight people because by that point the public assistance basic allowance and the medical assistance standard each increase by a fixed amount of \$50.00 per month for each additional family member, so the difference remains the same thereafter.

- b) Since the public assistance standard of need also includes shelter allowances (rent and heat), a comparison of those shelter allowances with the amounts in column 5 of the charts annexed to Mr. Reynolds' affidavit will identify those categories of families where the medical assistance standard is less than the possible total public assistance allowance. For example, where the medical assistance standard of need exceeds the basic public assistance allowance by \$133.00 per month (families of two or three people), if the shelter allowance is more than \$133.00 per month the total public assistance can exceed the medical assistance standard. Where it does, the person whose medical assistance standard is less than would be his public assistance needs is a member of the class.
- c) Accordingly, Mr. Reynolds made a comparison, by county, between the shelter allowance and the column 5 figure

for the difference between the medical assistance standard and the public assistance basic allowance for each family size. Since there are two types of shelter allowance, one where the rent includes heat, and one where the heat is not included in the rent, two separate shelter allowances exist for each county. In column 3 of the chart is the shelter allowance composed of the separate components of rent and heat, and in column 4 is the shelter allowance where the heat is included in the rent.

d) By comparing the amounts for shelter allowances in columns 3 and 4 with the figures in column 5 the categories of persons whose medical assistance standard can be below their public assistance standard can be identified. If the amount in column 3 or 4 exceeds the amount in column 5 the family may be required to live at a lower medical assistance standard than the applicable public assistance standard. If a

person's actual rent or rent plus
heat is less than the maximum allowances therefor they might, of course,
be at a public assistance level below
that of the medical assistance standard. The size of the gap and its
widespread existence, however, demonstrate that there are numerous persons
who would be at a public assistance
level higher than the medical assistance level.

- e) Where no figure in column 3 or 4 for a particular county is circled on the forms annexed to Mr. Reynolds' affidavit the public assistance allowance can be higher than the medical assistance standard, and that is usually the case. Only where a figure in column 3 or 4 for a particular county is circled could a family never receive public assistance at a level higher than the medical assistance standard.
- 15. In 16 counties plus all of New York City the schedule is high enough that for all family sizes and rental arrangements the medical assistance standard is below the maxi-

mum public assistance allowance. Those counties are largely the urban counties, or part of the New York City urban area; they are: Albany, Broome, Dutchess, Herkimer, Monroe, Nassau, Onondaga, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Saratoga, Suffolk, Sullivan, Tompkins, Ulster, and Westchester (plus New York City).

16. According to "Social Statistics," Volume XXXVII, No. 1, January, 1975, Table 5, p.4, published by the New York State Department of Social Services (Exhibit "B" annexed), there were in January, 1975, in the state outside of New York City 120,079 recipients of medical assistance who were not also recipients of public assistance. The 16 counties identified in paragraph 15 above had 62,875 such recipients, or over 52 percent of the total. When added to New York City, with 65,004 recipients of medical assistance alone, there are a total of 127,879 persons in New York in areas where the public assistance allowance can exceed the medical assistance allowance no matter what the family size. That is over 69 percent of the total number of people in the state receiving medical assistance but not public assistance as well.

17. In another 32 counties some, but not all, family sizes can be subject to lower medical assistance standards than public assistance allowances. In only seven counties are all persons at all family sizes assured that the medical assistance standard will not be lower than the public assistance allowance. Those seven counties, Clinton, Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis,

Livingston, Rensselaer, and Warren contain only a total of 9,632 persons receiving medical assistance without public assistance, about 5.2 percent of the state total. (Two counties, Wyoming and Yates, have rent levels which were not ascertainable from the data provided by the State, but inasmuch as in January, 1975 they contained only 577 persons receiving medical assistance but not public assistance their omission does not seriously affect the total results).

- standard and the public assistance allowance is so substantial in the counties in the New York City area that substantial numbers of persons must perforce fall into that gap. In Nassau County, for example, the monthly gap is at least \$30.00, for a single person not paying separate heat bills, and it increases to \$226.00 per month for a family of 8 paying their own heat bill. In Rockland County, where the plaintiffs reside, the monthly gap ranges from \$50.00 for a single person paying his own heat bills, to \$211.00 for a family of 8 paying their own heat.
- 19. It is apparent that in most of New York's counties, where most of the persons reside who receive medical assistance but not cash public assistance, the medical assistance standards are lower for most ramilies than the comparable public assistance allowances. All of the people in New York who fall into this gap between the public assistance and medical assistance standards are members of a class which totals in the thousands, plainly a group so numerous that joinder would be impracticable.

RULE 23(a)(2) -- COMMON QUESTIONS

cedure requires as a prerequisite to the maintenance of a class action that there be "questions of law or fact common to the class." Here those questions are the ones raised by the plaintiffs' several statements of claim, namely: Does requiring the class members to exist at a level below the public assistance level violate equal protection? Does requiring the class members to exist at a level below the public assistance federal law and regulations governing the medical assistance program? Plainly these are questions of law common to the class.

RULES 23(a)(3) and (4 -TYPICALITY AND ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION

21. Rule 23(a)(3) requires that the claims of the representative parties be "typical of the claims ... of the class" and Rule 23(a)(4) requires a showing that "the representative parties will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class." It is difficult to differentiate between the requirements of typicality and adequacy of representation, since they both concern possible conflicting claims among the class. Suffice it to say that there are no such conflicts here. All of the class members would benef if the amount of money they were allowed to retain for non-medical purposes was increased as required if the medical assistance standards were brought up to the public assistance level.

- 22. So too, the named plaintiffs have an adequate personal stake in this case. They are being required to live on \$107.00 less each month, \$1284.00 less per year, than if the medical assistance schedule were increased to the levels alleged to be required. That is over 1/3 of their current level of allowance and plainly is a large amount of their meagre budget.
- 23. Adequacy of representation is also assured by the fact that plaintiffs' counsel are experienced both in the substantive area of welfare law as well as in class actions and are full time employees of Legal Services Programs. Plaintiffs' counsel from the Legal Aid Society of Rockland County have successfully represented petitioners in public assistance cases in the New York Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, e.g. Granata v. Lavine, 80 Misc. 2d 170 (Sup. Ct. Rockland Co. 1974); Norton v. Lavine, 74 Misc. 2d 590 (Sup. Ct. Rockland Co. 1973); Knowles v. Lavine, 34 N.Y. 2d 721 (1974). I personally have been one of the counsel for the plaintiffs' class in Frost v. Weinberger, 375 F. Supp. 1312 (E.D.N.Y. 1974), affirmed as to class action but reversed on the merits 2d Cir. dkt. no. 74-2020 (Apr. 17, 1975), a case involving Social Security survivors' benefits, as well as counsel for defendants in several commercial class actions, e.g. Cotchett v. Avis Rent a Car System, Inc., 56 F.R.D. 549 (S.D.N.Y. 1972); Steingart v. The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, 366 F.Supp. 790 (S.D.N.Y. 1973) (reported on non-class action issue). The plaintiffs have also made their class action

motion on a timely basis and are proceeding promptly to bring about a result favorable to the class.

24. In their answers, copies of which are annexed hereto as Exhibits "E" and "F" the defendants have asserted that the plaintiffs lack standing because of certain insurance policies held by them, and the receipt of Social Security benefits during October, 1973. Standing of the named plaintiffs, and their membership in the class, is part of adequacy of representation. The fact is that these factors do not affect the plaintiffs' standing at all.

(Exhibit "E"), refers to two life insurance policies in the amount of \$6,000.00 and \$1,000.00, and the defendant Weinberg in paragraph 19 of his answer (Exhibit "F") refers to policies in the amount of \$600.00 and \$1,000.00 which he alleges on information and belief to be "greater than the burial reserve which should be permitted in such matters." That allegation completely ignores the fact, previously pointed out in paragraph 11 of the defendant Weinberg's answer (Exhibit "F."), that there is not only a burial reserve of \$500.00 per person, or \$1,500.00 for the three plaintiffs and \$2,000.00 including the disabled Mr. Aitchison, but also a "savings exemption which increases with the size of the family." That reserve is provided for under 18 N.Y.C.R.R.

360.7(a)(5). Thus for the three plaintiffs the savings reserve is \$2,500.00, as the defendant Weinberg has conceded, since Mr. Aitchison must be included pursuant to regulation 360.5(e).

26. Accordingly, even based on the lower reserves allowed for a family of three, like the plaintiffs, there is a \$1,500.00 burial reserve and a \$2,500.00 savings reserve, or a total reserve of \$4,000.00. For a family of four the reserve, as the defendant Weinberg likewise admits, is \$4,500.00. Moreover, the true nature of these insurance policies is evident from a copy of the medical assistance form used by the local department of social services headed by the defendant Weinberg. A copy of this form, supplied from the files of the Legal Aid Society of Rockland County, Inc., is annexed as Exhibit "G." t shows that there is a \$6,000.00 group life policy with no cash value, plus two other policies with a cash value together of \$2,204.30. Suffice it to say that \$2,204.00 is much less than either the \$4,000.00 or \$4,500.00 reserve figure allowable here. Indeed, that form plainly shows in Section B that the "Available Resources" are zero.

27. As for the Social Security payment made on or about October 3, 1973, the defendants' contentions are equally off the mark. As the answer of the defendant Weinberg admits, the plaintiff has asserted that she used that money to pay a debt to her brother "and produced a cancelled check bearing date of October 8, 1973 in proof thereof." (Exhibit F, ¶17). There is

absolutely no showing that the adult plaintiff did not in fact pay over all of that lump sum Social Security check in October, 1973. As of that payment, of course, the proceeds of that payment ceased to be a resource of the plaintiffs.

graph 9 of his answer (Exhibit "D"), that the plaintiffs' resources are in excess of the \$333.00 amount alleged by her is equally ill-conceived, for it confuses resources with income. This case concerns the monthly income limit of \$333.00 per month, not resource limitations like those for burial or savings reserves. The plaintiffs are challenging the income limits under section 366.2(a)(8) of the Social Services Law and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. 360.5(e), not the resource limits such as those set forth in sections 366.2(a)(3) and (4) of the Social Services Law and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. 360.7(a)(3) and (4). The distinction is, of course, reflected on the worksheet form (Exhibit "G"), between section B "Available Resources" and Section C "Monthly Income Available for Contribution Towards Cost of Medical Care," under which the \$333.00 "Monthly Income Exemption" is shown on line 2.

29. That these alleged resources have absolutely nothing to do with the determination made by the defendants in this case is further evident from the fact that the underlying decision was made on October 17, 1974, over a year after the Social Security lump sum payment had been spent. There is no reference to that sum, or to any insurance policies in the fair hearing decision of the defendant Lavine which is Exhibit "A" to the complaint. That is understandable since neither subject was ever

raised at the fair hearing - - a copy of the transcript of that fair hearing is annexed hereto as Exhibit "H." It is obvious that these allegations by the defendants are mere afterthoughts having absolutely nothing to do with the challenged determinations and policies, and indeed, having no merit at all.

30. Since the filing of the complaint therein the plaintiff Michael Aitchison has become employed, so he is no longer dependent upon his parents but rather self-supporting, and indeed he is paying his mother for room and board. While the plaintiffs' income allowance under the medical assistance program may thus be recomputed, at most the change should be to treat Michael Aitchison as a self-supporting person not responsible to support his parents or sister, so that the plaintiffs Marion Aitchison and her daughter Janice Aitchison would be considered to be a family of two rather than a family of three.

31. That change does not affect this action, for the two person medical assistance income allowance of \$283.00 per month set out in section 366.2(a)(8) of the Social Services Law is less than the applicable public assistance level for such a family of two, which is \$344.00 per month (the basic allowance is \$150.00 per month pursuant to section 131-a(3) of the Social Services Law and 18 N.Y.C.R.R. 352.2(e) and the rental allowance for rent including heat in Rockland County is \$194.00 for two people). Thus the plaintiffs Marion Aitchison and Janice Aitchison would still be required to live below the public assistance level, as a two person

family \$61.00 per month below the public assistance level.

RULE 23(b)(2) -INJUNCTIVE DECLARATORY RELIEF

32. Rule 23(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides that an action may be maintained as a class action if, in addition to meeting the requirements of Rule 23(a),

the party opposing the class has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive or corresponding declaratory relief with respect to the class as a whole.

- 33. Here the defendant State Commissioner Abe Lavine has promulgated regulations which provide for medical assistance eligibility standards which must be followed by all local commissioners of social services throughout New York State, who act under the direction and supervision of, and as agents of, the State Commissioner.
- 34. Thus the defendants, by relying on the challenged statute and regulation (and the State Commissioner by promulgating such regulation) have acted on grounds generally applicable to the class. They, are applying a uniform policy which violates federal law and regulations and the Constitution. Accordingly, final injunctive or declaratory relief is appropriate.
- 35. All of the prerequisites for the maintenance of this action on behalf of a class have been met, so class action status should be granted.

WHEREFORE, deponent prays that the plaintiffs' motion for an order determining that this action be maintained as a class action be granted.

RENE H. REIXACH

Sworn to before me this

K. WADE EATON

Notary Public in the State of New York

MONROE COUNTY, N. Y

Commission Expires March 30, 1976

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE RECIPIENTS AND EXPENDITURES IN NEW YORK STATE, EXHIBIT B TO REIXACH'AFFIDAVIT OF MAY 19

Figle 5

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
Beneficiaries, expenditures and average payment, by social services district

January 1975

Social services district		Beneficiaries	Medical	Average		
	Total	Subsistence and Medical	Hedical Only	expenditures	payment per beneficiary	
w York State 1,024,904		839,821	185,083	\$238,795,992	\$232.99	
lew York City	675,656	610,652	65,004	172,009,803	254.58	
test of State	349,248	229,169	120,079	66,1 16,189	201.17 144.95 197.42 385.65 185.23 130.65 170.91	
Large Urban Counties Erie Monros Massau Onondaga Suffolk Westchester	194,232 43,3°2 20,311 36,137 15,597 37,666 41,119	136,912 28,245 15,021 25,964 12,366 22,297 32,999	57,320 15,137 5,290 10,173 3,211 15,389 8,120	39,074,445 6,288,040 4,009,843 13,736,347 2,889,045 4,723,629 7,027,541		
Other Counties Albany Allegary Brooms Cattara us Cayuga Chautsuqua Chemango Clinton Columbia Cortland Delaware Dutchnss Essex Franklin Fulton Genesses Greens Hamilton Heridser Jefferson Levis Livingston Hedinon Hontgomery Wiagara Creida Cutario Corange Crleans Conego Otsego Pitnas Rensselaer Rockland St. Learence Saratoga Schemectady Schoharis Schuyler Sensea Steuben Sullivan Tioga Toricins Ulster Warnen Washington Wayne Wyoming Tates	155,016 9,143 1,883 7,713 1,873 3,706 5,450 4,326 2,360 4,122 1,501 2,099 1,173 4,417 2,461 2,682 1,648 1,210 1,664 215 1,931 4,277 966 1,13 2,831 1,295 4,995 10,787 1,632 7,544 2,007 3,890 1,840 946 4,351 8,225 5,546 2,540 635 771 3,393 2,616 1,620 2,566 3,651 2,004 2,059 2,215 588 604	92,257 6,033 1,201 4,849 1,117 2,564, 3,881 3,643 1,187 889 749 1,269 627 2,357 1,439 1,696 906 884, 1,058 131 928 2,678 447 727 1,921 660 3,649 6,373 579 5,507 1,002 2,507 1,054 501 2,640 3,884 3,383 1,0° 2,950 1,0° 3,65 469 2,001 1,583 799 1,846 2,106 1,078 1,209 1,577 275 340	62,759 3,110 682 2,864 756 1,142 1,569 1,313 1,173 3,233 752 830 546 2,060 1,022 1,186 742 326 606 84 1,003 1,599 519 418 910 435 1,346 4,414 1,253 2,037 1,005 1,383 786 445 1,711 4,341 2,163 1,534 1,986 364 270 303 1,589 1,033 821 720 1,543 966 850 638 313 266	27,711,744 2,168,656 288,324 1,925,118 166,390 730,801 1,038,710 613,947 264,585 371,232 261,793 229,164 222,218 854,103 344,406 401,746 358,136 277,177 367,782 20,246 327,401 757,644 117,522 189,143 277,735 215,863 1,242,279 1,716,320 338,157 1,236,042 238,620 475,397 293,213 255,872 805,363 1,938,048 740,313 537,216 1,351,368 58,008 102,645 125,247 447,572 805,789 229,985 330,594 682,972 281,061 306,625 306,468 23,867 82,861	178.77 237.19 153.12 249.59 88.84 197.19 150.59 141.92 112.11 90.06 174.41 109.18 189.44 199.37 139.95 139.40 217.32 229.07 253.04 94.17 169.55 177.14 152.71 165.19 98.10 166.69 248.70 159.11 184.58 177.10 118.69 122.21 159.35 270.48 185.10 238.06 133.49 211.50 273.78	

TABLE SHOWING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE EXEMPT INCOME LEVELS [NYSSL § 366 (2) (a) (8)] AND PUPLIC ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR EASIC NEEDS EXCLUDING SHELTER [NYSSL § 131-a(3)], EXHIBIT D TO REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF FAMILY SIZE

MAY 19

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Monthly medical assistance (see ¶8, supra)	\$208	283	333	417	475	533	600	650
Basic Monthly allowance	94	150	200	258	318	368	418	468
Differential for com- parison to shelter allowance	114	133	133	159	157	165	182	182

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State of New York

Department of Social Services

In the Matter of the Appeal of

MARION AITCHISON

From a Determination by the Rockland County
Department of Social Services
relating to the adequacy of medical
assistance.

DATE OF HEARING:

November 14, 1974

PLACE OF HEARING:

Pomona, New York

OTH OREI

WILLIAM MEYERS Hearing Officer

REPORTED DY:

Joseph D'Ambrosio Hearing Reporter

APPEARANCES:

APPELLANT

Marion Aitchison Kathleen Batwinas Alton Abramowitz Appellant
Daughter of Appellant
Representative

ROCKLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Robert Berlin Representative

THE HEARTING OFFICER: My name is
William R. Meyers, I have been designated by the Commission
of Social Services to conduct this hearing, which relates
to an appeal by one Marion Aitchison, who is appealing
from an adverse determination by the agency with specific
reference to the adequacy of medical assistance. Is that
the problem?

MR. APRAMOVITZ: Yes.

THE HEARING OFFICER: There will be a verbatim transcript kept of the record of the proceeding, and both parties will be permitted to present documents. Witnesses will be questioned and cross-examined, and if I doem it appropriate there may be rebuttal. As a result of the hearing, there will be a decision issued by the State Commissioner of Social Services, which will be binding on both parties, and copies of which decision will be given to both parties. Now, let the record note that this involves an agency determination. Therefore, I ask that Mr. Berlin present the agency's case first. However, preliminary to this hearing, the Hearing Officer has been advised that the appellant had been in receipt of medical assistance since September 6,1972 and the family household consists of the appellant, age fifty-three, her husband, age forty-nine, and their two children, ranging in ages eighteen to twenty years. I had them reversed. Okay, alright, so you're forty-nine and your . husband is fifty-three?

MRS. AITCHIGOM: Right.

THE HEARING OFFICER: And the two children's age is eighteen to twenty, the older child being a full time student. These facts are correct?

MR. ADRAHOWATZ: Yes.

THE HEARING OFFICE": And Mr. Berlin?

MR. BERLIN: Yes.

THE HEARTHO OFFICER: Now, would you emplain the agency determination concerning this medical assistance matter?

of Acceptance in a nursing home - acceptance - a Notice of Acceptance in a nursing home.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Any objection?

MR. ABRAMOTIKE: No objection.

THE HEARING OFFICER: The Motice of Acceptance for medical assistance in a nursing home, addressed to the appellant from the agency, and dated October 17, 1974 i received into evidence, marked Agency's Exhibit 'A'.

Off the record.

(Whereupon the record was closed.)

There has been a brief recess for allowing the Mccring Officer to accept a telephone call.

Now, we have just received the Notice of Intent -- the Notice of Acceptance for a nursing home. How long has Mr. Aitchison been in a nursing home?

MRS. AITCHISON: Two and a half years — almost two and a half years.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Two and a half years?

MR. BERLIN: Let the record indicate he

certified as an AD group 1.

THE HEARTING OFFICER: So, he is now getting

SSI?

MR. BERLIN: No.

THE HEARTING OFFICER: That's right --

MR. BERLIM: It's MA.

THE HEARING OFFICER: He gots Social Security?

MR. BERLIN: Yes. He gets Social Security,

and he gets a pension.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay, go ahead.

MR. FERLIN: I'd like to introduce for

reference purposes, the budget wor scheet.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay.

MR. BERLIN: Just to calculate --

in the file for reference in connection with your testimony

THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay, I'll leave it

budget worksheet to show we calculated the amount of contributions that Mr. Aitchison is supposed to make to the nursing home. Section A, income, Mr. Aitchison is receiving a pension from Western Electric of \$277.59 a menth. His wife, Marion, is receiving Social Security in the amount of \$110.10. The budget worksheet indicates that Janice, I believe, that both children are seciving a total of \$110.10 in Social Security. Mr. Aitchison is

receiving Social Security disability in the amount

FAIR HEARING TRANSCRIPT of \$256.30, and there is also income from a mortgage in the amount of \$92.59 a month. There is a total of \$846.65. There are no health incurance premiums, income tax, support payments, or any of that being deducted from this amount, and in accordance with Department Regulations, when an individual is in chronic care, the allowance would be based on the three, so it would be monthly income exemptions of \$333. He also being in chronic care - out of person, he is also allowed a personal allowance in chronic care of \$28.50. The agency determined that he has available monthly income of \$485.18. Of this, \$256.30 which represents the amount of Social Security disability and the 882.59, his mortgage income is received directly by the nursing home. The agency additionally deducted \$20.80 which is a transportation allowance. This allows a total contribution to the balance of the contribution to the nursing home of \$115.49, to the nursing home. I have nothing further.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Off the record. (Whereupon the record was closed)

Back on the record. Now, so that based on what you have told me, the Secial Security income that is received on behalf of the children, this presumably comes to the appellant as payee?

MM. BERLIN: I believe this check goes — it does not go to the nursing home, it goes to the home of the appellant.

THE HEARING OFFICER: I mean, is it to the

appellant or her husband, as payee and then for the children?

MR. BERLIN: Yes. For the children.

THE HEARTING OFFICER: Okay.

MR. BERLIN: In this case, the payee is Marion.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Ckay, now, do you have

anything further to tell me?

MR. BERLIN: I have nothing further to this tir

THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Abramowitz, I will ask you to present your case in a moment. However, with regard to what I've heard from Mr. Berlin, do you have any questions you desire to ask him?

MR. ABRAMOSITZ: Yes, I do.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay, go ahead.

MR. ABRAMONITE: Mr. Berlin, are you familiar with the standard of need which the State applies to families applying for public assistance in New York State?

MR. BERLIM: Yes, sir.

MR. ADRAMOWITZ: Alright, in a household of this size, of Mrs. Aitchison's, excluding her husband for a moment, would the maintenance allowance be the full \$200 a month for three people?

MR. BERLIN: Yes.

MR. ABRAMOWITZ: And would they receive a shelt
allowance of \$243 toward their rent?

MR. BERLIN: I believe if the rent is in excess of \$243, they would receive up to that amount.

FAIR HEARING TRANSCRIPT

If it is less, they would receive less.

income.

MR. ABRAMONITZ: Okay, so in effect, they would be entitled to a total grant of \$440?

MR. BERLIN: Assuming no other sources of income.

MR. ABPANOSITZ: Yos, okay.

MR. BERLIN: Assuming no other source of

MR. ABRAMOSITZ: According to your budget sheetyour budget worksheet, and your Notice of Acceptance
for medical assistance, provides that living in the
household shall only be allowed to use \$333 of their entire
income. Is that correct?

on medical assistance standards for a family of three people.

MR. ABRAMOMITZ: So, in effect, they to being required to provide for themselves on a lower standard .lower standard them statewide standard of needs for public assistance recipients of a family of three, is this correct?

the figure of \$333 takes into account — actually it is not — it is being d ducted from the income where the figuring of \$443 is a maximum amount and does not include any income being deducted from it. So that you have to apply the income applicable, and make a determination what their actual wants would be before I could —

VII. ABRAMOSITZ: Now, you misunderstood my question. If — disregarding any income for a moment — if they were recipients of public assistance, that would not effect, at this time—they would not effect at this time, grants of \$\tilde{c}440?

M. BERLYI'S Yes.

MR. ABLAMOTITZ: And, based on the figures of your agency, this household of Mrs. Aitchison, her son Michael, and her daughter, Janice, are only being asked to live on a sum total of 0333?

MR. BERLIN: That would be correct.

MR. ABRAHOWITZ: Okay, I have nothing further for Mr. Berlin.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Chay, do you have a witness?

would, I would rather just present the essence of our case, myself, rather than ask any questions of Mrs. Aitchison. It does not really involve any facts which are in dispute. Essentially, what we're arguing here is that she being required — she and her two children are being required to live on an amount less than that which a public assistance family would receive, and less than what the State Legislature has found is minimum standard of needs for a family of three percons, approximational standard of needs for a family of three percons, approximational should be required to contribute \$110 less a month toward her husband's medical care in the nursing home. And that

\$110 should be a monthly income exemption for the family.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Well, I have already discussed that in the course of our cross-examination. You have made your point clear as to that fact. However, it may be that Mr. Berlin would have some question of the client, and it may be that there are some facts that I myself, would desire to explore. This is a fact

finding hearing. I would assume the purpose is to present the facts. Do you have a witness?

MR. ABRAMOWITZ: Alright, I have Mrs. Aitchison I would like to call.

THE HEARTHG OFFICER: Okay.

EXAMINATION OF URS. AITCHISON: BY MR. ABRAMOWITZ:

- Q Mrs. Aitchison, you have heard the testimony of Mr. Berlin?
- A Yes.
- . Q And as to the figures which he has discussed as to your present income, are those figures correct?
 - A Yes.
- Q Okay. Now, are you able to live on 0333 a month that the Department of Social Services allows you and your family to keep?
 - A Absolutely not.
 - Q Do you have expenses in excess of (333 a morth?
 - A Yes, I do.
 - Q How much is your monthly rent?
 - A . \$240.

0

Q And you're given — you're allowed to keep \$333 a month by the Department, is that correct?

- A Not the way my figures come out.
- Q Well, let's see -
- A I receive my husband's pension and my own Social Security and my daughter's. Out of that, I have to pay my rent.
- Q Okey, and you also make payments to the nursing home out of that, too, correct?
 - A I'm supposed to, but I have not been able to do that.

MR. ABRAMOWITZ: Okay, I have nothing further of Mrs. Aitchison.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Do you have any questions?

MR. BERLIN: Only one question, if I may, to clarify something. The only child that gets Social Security is Janice, is that correct?

MRS. AITCHISON: It is Janice, but, you see, actually when Michael is going to school he is covered up here. She gets \$110, that's all they issue.

MR. BERLIM: That's the total for two of them?

MRS. AITCHISON: Yes.

MR. BERLIN: But Janice is the only name that appears there?

MRS. AIRCHISON: Right.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Alright, nothing clos?

MR. BERLIN: Nothing.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Mrs. Aitchison, it's my understanding that you have no income taxes — you didn't pay any state or federal income taxes?

MRS. AITCHISON: No.

THE HEARING OFFICER: You have no health

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FAIR HEARING TRANSCRIPT insurance, like Blue Cross or Blue Shield?

MRS. AITCHISON: Yes, I do. That comes out of my husband's pension.

THE HEARING OFFICER: How much is that?

MRS. ATTCHISON: Actually, I don't know what they deducted.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Is that with a commercial carrier?

MRS. AITCHISON: That is Western Electric Company.

THE HEARING OFFICER: So, that the amount that you actually get in the form of the pension is £277.59 a month?

MRS. AITCHISON: Yes.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Yes. So, that's after the health insurance is taken out?

MRS. ATTCHISON: After deductions.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Your husband is certified to be disabled, does he have medicaid?

MRS. ATTCHISON: Not yet.

THE HEARING OFFICER: 'The federal medicare?

MRS. AITCHISCN: Not yet.

THE HEARTIC OFFICER: No.

MRS. AITCHISON: Not until he is sixty-five.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Now, and you have heard
that the income from the mortgage and your husband's
Social Security go directly to the nursing home to reduce
the amount of their bills?

FAIR HEARING TRANSCRIPT
MRS. AITCHISON: Yes.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Now, did you at any time apply for public assistance other than medical assistance?

MRS. AITCHISON: No.

THE HEARING OFFICED: Was there any reason why there was no application made for public assistance?

MRS. AITCHISOM: Public assistance of what sort? THE HEARING OFFICER: This would be a cash grant of public assistance which would take into consideration you: expenses, such as expenditures for rent during the winter. would take into consideration expenditures for fuel for heating. There's allowance for all other expenses, includin clothes and items of general needs. The legislature, in adopting a medical assistance program, takes into consideration that certain items are deductible. Items such as rent and things of that nature are - by legislation are not included. It could be that if an application was made for public assistance, this could resume in a determination in your favor. I will draw no conclusions as to that, at this time because I have indicated there has been no such application. There being nothing further the hearing is closed. There will be a decision from the Commissioner in Albany. All parties will receive copies of that decision. Thank you for coming.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES TAKEN AT THIS FAIR HEARING.

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES REYNOLDS, SWORN TO MAY 19, 1975 IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR CLASS ACTION DETERMINATION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

75 Civ. 1224 MEF

-against-

ABE LAVINE, et al.,

AFFIDAVIT

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF MONROE) SS:

JAMES REYNOLDS, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am a member of Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) assigned to the Monroe County Legal Assistance Corporation in Rochester, New York. My duties there are those of a paralegal, including performing factual research assignments at the request and under the direction of attorneys from the Monroe County Legal Assistance Corporation.
- 2. In March, 1975, Rene H. Reixach, an attorney at the Greater Up-State Law Project of the Monroe County Legal Assistance Corporation, requested that I compute certain data for the purposes of determining the scope of the class in this action. He requested that I make calculations for each county in New York, plus New York City, to compare the shelter allowances for each county and family size with a figure representing the difference between the medical assistance allowances and the basic public assistance allowance for all family sizes.

REYNOLDS AFFIDAVIT

- ach county, plus one for the City of New York, upon which I filled in the appropriate data. The amounts filled in under column 1 of those sheets as the rent allowance are those shown on the document which is Exhibit "C" to Mr. Reixach's affidavit of even date, which I have read. The amounts in column 2 for fuel are the amounts for fue for heating on a 12 month basis from the table set forth in 18 N.Y.C.R.R. section 352.5(a). I added those amounts to arrive at a total shelter allowance shown in column 3 on the fifty-eight (58) sheets. The amounts for rent where heat is included, filled in on column 4, are, like those in column 1, taken from Exhibit "C" to Mr. Reixach's affidavit.
- 4. Pursuant to the instructions at the bottom of each sheet, I circled all the numbers in columns 3 or 4 which were less than the number in column 5. Thus where a number in column 3 or 4 is circled the medical assistance standard exceeds the public assistance allowance maximum; where a number is not circled the public assistance allowance can be higher than the medical assistance standard.
- 5. An examination of these fifty-eight (58) sheets demonstrates that in the majority of cases, based on both county and family size, the medical assistance standard is less than the possible public assistance allowance, so the plaintiffs' class is quite numerous.

REYNOLDS AFFIDAVIT

WHEREFORE, I pray that the plaintiffs' motion for an order determining that his action is maintainable as a class action be granted.

JAMES REYNOLDS

Sworn to before me this

34 100 of May , 1975

K. WADE EATON

Notary Public in the State of New York

MONROE COUNTY, N. Y.

Commission Expires March 30, 19

[Charts deleted. Corrected charts appear at pp/50-207 of this Appendix.]

STIPULATION DATED JULY 1, 1975, AMENDING COMPLAINT AND MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT TO REFER TO 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1)(ii) INSTEAD OF 45 C.F.R. § 248.21(a)(3)(i)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, Individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANICE AITCHISON, her minor children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs.

- against -

STIPULATION
75 Civ 1224 (MEF)

ABE LAVINE, as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York and NOAH WEINBERG, as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York,

Defendants.

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the undersigned attorneys for the parties to this action that plaintiffs' motion pursuant to Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, granting plaintiffs summary judgment on their third claim as set forth in their complaint, be adjourned from the 7th day of July, 1975, until the 6th day of August, 1975, and that the defendants shall serve their papers, if any, in answer thereto upon the attorneys for the plaintiffs and file such answers with this Court on or before the 23rd day of July, 1975; and it is further

STIPULATED AND AGREED that plaintiffs' motion pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure be similarly adjourned from the 7th day of July, 1975, until the 6th day of August, 1974, and that the defendants' answering papers, if any, shall be served on the attorneys for the plaintiffs and filed with this Court on or before the 23rd day of July,

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

STIPULATION AMENDING COMPLAINT AND MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

1975; and it is further

STIPULATED AND AGREED that paragraph 31 of the complaint herein be amended to read as follows:

31. Levels of income for maintenance established by the defendants are less than the higher of the levels of the payment standards generally used as a measure of financial eligibility in the money payment programs in violation of 45 C.F.R. § 248.3 (c)(1)(ii);

and it is further

STIPULATED AND AGREED that plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment above referred to be similarly amended by placing reliance on 45 CFR § 248.3 (c)(1)(ii) instead of 45 CFR § 248.21 (a)(3)(i).

Dated: New City, New York
July 1, 1975

DOUGLAS J. GOOD, Esq.
ALTON L. ABRAMOWITZ, Esq.
LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF
ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
2 Congers Road
P. O. Box 314
New City, New York 10956
(914) 634-3627

LOUIS J. LEFKOWITZ, Esq.
Attorney General of the
State of New York
Attorney for Respondent
LAVINE

Dated: New York, New York
July , 1975

BY: DAVID R. SPIEGEL, ESG.

2 World Trade Center

New York, New York 10047

(212) 488-7591

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LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.

STIPULATION AMENDING COMPLAINT AND MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

DIANA W. RIVET, Esq.
County Attorney
Attorney for Respondent
WEINBERG

Dated: New City, New York July , 1975

BY: NOHN B. FRANKLIN, Esq. County Office Building New City, New York 10956 (914) 638-0500

SO ORDERED:

MARVIN E. FRANKEL
District Judge

DEFENDANT LAVINE'S NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

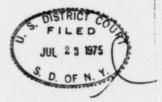
MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of Michael Aitchison and Janice Aitchison, her children and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ABE LAVINE, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social : Services of the State of New York, and NOAH WEINBERG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York

Defendants.



Notice of Motion

75 Civ. 1224 (MEF)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that upon the accompanying affidavit of BEVERLEE MEYERS; the attached answer to plaintiffs' Rule 9(g) statement; the accompanying memorandum of law of defendant Lavine; plaintiffs' motions and accompanying papers for summary judgment and for an order declaring this matter to be a class action; and upon all other papers and proceedings heretofore had and filed herein, the undertigned, as counsel for defendant Lavine will cross-move this Court on August 6, 1975, at the Courthouse thereof, Foley Square, New York, New York for summary judgment pursuant to Rule 56(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and for such other relief as this Court may deem necessary and proper.

Dated: New York, New York July 22, 1975

Yours etc.,

LOUIS J. LEFKOWITZ
Attorney General of the
State of New York
Attorney for Defendant Lavine
By

DAVID R. SPIEGEL
Assistant Attorney General
Office & P.O. Address
Two World Trade Center
New York, New York 10047
Tel. No. (212) 488-7591

ANSWER TO PLAINTIFFS' STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 9 (g) IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT LAVINE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of Michael Aitchison and Janice Aitchison, her children and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ANSWER TO RULE 9(g) STATEMENT OF PLAINTIFFS

(MEL)

ABE LAVINE, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social : _ 75 Civ. 1224 Services of the State of New York, and NOAH WEINBERG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York

Defendants.

Defendant Lavine, for an answer to the Rule 9(g) statement of plaintiffs, by and through his attorney, LOU.S J. LEFKOWITZ, Attorney General of the State of New York, respectfully alleges:

- 1. Admits the allegations in paragraphs "1", "2", "3", "5", "6", "7", "8", and "9" thereof.
- 2. Admits the allegations in paragraph "4" thereof; states further that plaintiffs are also permitted to retain \$28.50 of their total monthly income, for a total of \$361.50, monthly income.
- 3. With respect to the allegations in paragraph "10" thereof, denies to the extent that any dollar amounts are placed on the amount of medical assistance funds that defendant Lavine administers; the amount of said fund is not yet in evidence.
- 4. Alleges in addition that it is also uncontroverted that:

DEFENDANT LAVINE'S ANSWER TO PLAINTIFFS' 9(g) STATEMENT

a) Plaintiffs receive a total monthly income of \$846.68. Said income consists of the following components:
(1) \$256.30 in social security income for Mr. Aitchison; (2) \$92.59 in income from a mortgage; (3) \$277.59 in social security income for Mrs. Aitchison and her dependents; (4) \$220.20 in income from Mr. Aitchison's pension.

b) In addition to her monthly income, plaintiffs received and were permitted to keep a \$2,579.20 social security award paid to her on October 3, 1973 for Mr. Aitchison's disability. Plaintiff Mrs. Aitchison alleges that this check was turned over to a brother in satisfaction of a debt of her husband accruing in 1968.

Dated: New York, New York July 22, 1975

LOUIS J. LEFKOWITZ
Attorney General of the
State of New, York
Attorney for Defendant Lavine
By

DAVID R. SPIEGEL
Assistant Attorney General
Office & P.O. Address
Two World Trade Center
New York, New York 10047
Tel. No. (212) 488-7591

AFFIDAVIT OF LEVERLEE MYERS, SWORN TO JULY 16, 1975, IN OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS' NOTION FOR SUITARY JUDGETH CLASS ACTION DETERMINATION & IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT LIVERY SHOTION FOR SUITARY JUDGETH SOUTHERN DISTRICT COURT

MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANICE AITCHISON, her children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated.

Plaintiffs,

AFFIDAVIT

- against -

75 Civ. 1224

ABE LAVINE, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of Nre York, and NOAH WEINBERG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York.

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK)

ı SS:

COUNTY OF ALBANY)

BEVERLEE MYERS, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- (1) I am the Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Medical Assistance for the New York State Department of Social Services.
- (2) I am familiar with New York State's Medical Assistance Program including those aspects of that program challenged in this lawsuit. This affidavit is prepared in opposition to plaintiffs' class action motion and summary judgment motion.
- (3) New York State's Medical assistance program is a cooperative program between the State and Federal governments. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1396, 1396a(b), and 1396b, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare is authorized to make payments to States which have an approved State plan for Medical Assistance.
- (4) On April 1, 1970, James C. Callison, Regional Commissioner of Region II, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, approved the State plan submittal which submitted Section 366.2(a)(8) of the New York Social Services Law and Board of Social Welfare Rule 85.4(b)(2)(i) for incorporation into New York's State Plan. Rule 85.4(b)(2)(i) has since been transferred to the Regulations of the Department of Social Services and numbered 18 NYCRR §360.5(e)(1)(i), the regulation challenged by plaintiffs in this lawsuit, (Exhibit A attached hereto is the relevant protions of the State plan proposal. (Exhibit B attached hereto is Commissioner Callison's approval).
- (5) Effective April 10, 1973, but retroactive to October 30, 1972, Social Services Law § 366.2(a) (9) was amended to increase the income exemption

- 2 MYERS AFFIDAVIT
for one person househol
(L. 1973. c. 880. sl)

from \$2,200 to \$2,500 for one person households and from \$3,100 to \$3,400 for two person households. (L. 1973, c. 830, §1). The regulation was changed to comply with the statutory amendment. There have been no subsequent changes in the schedule.

- (6) The income schedule of Social Services Law §366.2(a)(8) must comply with 45 C.F.R. 248.3(c)(1) for the State to receive Federal funding for its Medical Assistance program. The Department of Social Services does not have to comply with 45 C.F.R. 248.21(a)(3)(i)(b) and (c) and has not had to do so since January 1, 1974. 45 C.F.R. 248.21(a)(3)(i)(b) and (c) and apply only to Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. (Exhibit C is 39 Fed. Reg. 9518, which announced the above-mentioned amendment to 45 CFR 248.21. Exhibit D is 45 CFR 248.3(c)(1)).
- (7) On December 31, 1974, Elmer N. Smith, Regional Commissioner of Region II, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, reapproved New York's State plan containing SSL §366.2(a)(8) and 18 NYCRR §360.5(e)(1)(i) under the new federal regulation, 45 CFR 248.3(c)(1). (Exhibit E attached hereto is the relevant portions of the State plan proposal. Exhibit F attached hereto is Commissioner Smith's approval. The State plan proposal mistakenly refers to 45 CFR 248.21. However, that proposal was submitted and approved in 1974, after 45 CFR 248.3 had replaced 45 CFR 248.21).
- (8) The methodology used to compute the income schedule of SSL g366.2(a)(8) and 18 NYCRR g360.5(1)(i) do not conflict with 45 CFR 248.3(c)(1). Providing a uniform income exemption level by family size statewide is an acceptable methodology under the federal regulation.

The federal regulation provides two sets of requirements for income levels, one for families of three or more, the other for individuals and for families of two. For families of three or more, the State plan must:

- (1) Provide levels of income ... in total dollar amounts, as a basis for establishing financial eligibility for medical assistance. Under this requirement:
 - (i) Such income levels must be comparable as among individuals and families of varying sizes;
 - (ii) ... the income levels for maintenance must be, as a minimum, at the higher of the levels of the payment standards generally used as a measure of financial eligibility in the money payment programs, that is:

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(A) In the case of families of three or more, at the level of the payment standard of the State plan approved under title IV-A generally applied;

Under the New York Aid to Dependent Children program, enacted pursuant to title IV-A of the Social Security Act, ADC grants are computed as the sum of the basic grant plus a shelter allowance. The basic grant is uniform statewide, varying only by family size (SSL §131-a.2,3). The shelter allowance, however, differs from district to district. Each district provides rent as paid up to its own county maximum (18 NYCRR 352.3(a)) based upon houseing market conditions in that district. Each ADC household's shelter allowance is determined on a case bycase basis. For the purpose of having a "level of the payment standard of the State plan approved under title IV-A generally applied," the statewide ADC rents as actually paid were averaged for each household size and added to the basic grant for that household size. This provided a uniform amount statewide for each household size. SSL §366(2)(a)(8) satisfies all of the requirements under the federal regulations. The statute provides:

- "levels of income ... in total dollar amounts, as a basis for establishing financial eligibility" (45 CFR 248.3(c)(1)),
- (2) "income levels" which are "comparable as among individuals and families of varying sizes" (45 CFR 248.3(c)(1)(i), and
- (3) an income level "at the level of the payment standard of the (ADC plan) generally applied" (45 CFR 248.3(c)(1)(ii)(A).

The averaging (mean) of ADC rents was used to develop the payment standard generally applied.

- (9) The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare inplicitly approved this methodology by approving the State plan. (See part 4 of this affidavit, Supra). Additionally, that methodology was implicitly approved under the new federal regulation (45 CFR 248.3(c)(1)) when the State plan was reapproved. (See part 7 of this affidavit, supra).
- (10). For individuals or for families of two, 45 CFR 248.3(c)(1) requires that the State plan must:
 - Provide levels of income ... in total dollar amounts, as a basis for establishing financial eligibility for medical assistance. Under this requirement;
 - (i) Such income levels must be comparable as among individuals and families of varying sizes;
 - (ii) ... the income levels for maintenance must be, as a minimum, at the higher of the levels of the payment standards generally used as a measure of financial eligibility in the money payment programs, that is:

INVERS AFFIDAVIT

- (B) In the case of individuals, or families (including families with children) of two persons, at the higher of:
 - The payment standard of the State plan approved under title IV-A generally applied, or
 - (2) The highest level of payment which is generally available to individuals in any of the three groups (aged, blind and disabled) who are (or would be, except for income) eligible for benefits under title XIX...

Although the ADC payment standard is the only payment standard to be used for families of three or more, for smaller households, the State must use whichever program, ADC or Supplemental Security Income under title XIX, provides a higher payment standard. In New York State, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provides a higher level of payment than the ADC "payment standard ... generally applied" both for one and two person households. Therefore, the federal regulation requires the SSI "highest level of payment generally applied" rather than the ADC "payment standard" as the measure of the Medical Assistance income standards for one and two person households in New York.

SSI payments are uniform statewide (42 USCC gl382(b), SSL g209.2). To determine whether the income levels of SSL 366.2(a)(8) meet federal requirements for one and two person households, that standard need only meet or exceed the applicable "generally available" SSI levels. There is no need to compare it with possible ADC grants county by county since the ADC payment standard is not the higher of the program payment standards in New York State.

(11) Increases in public assistance levels that were not accompanied by increases is SSL §366.2(a)(8)'s income levels resulted in the income exemption for two person households not being high enough to meet federal requirements.

At the request of the State defendant, legislation was introduced in the New York State Legislature to raise the SSL g366.2(a)(8) income exemption level for two person households to 100% of the SSI payment level for two person households. The bill also proposes increases for other household sizes to take effect October 1, 1975 to meet anticipated future increases in ADC payment levels. SSL g366.2(a)(8) is not out of compliance with the federal regulation on these other family sizes. (Exhibit G attached hereto is the legislative proposal).

- 5 -MYERS AFFIDAVIT

However, this in no way calls into que.cion New York's methodology (uniform statewide levels by family size). The Department of ealth, Education and Welfare has never criticized this method of setting income levels.

- (12) SSL §366.2(a)(8) currently provides reasonable standards comparable for all groups and, therefore, does not violate 42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(17).
- (13) Plaintiff's individual budgetary method of computing Medical Assistance income levels will cause considerable administrative difficulties. Obviously, any system that requires individual computations in every case rather than the application of a uniform schedule will require more man-hours to administer. Delays in the processing of applications would necessarily result.

In some social services districts, it would be impossible to use plaintiff's method for all applicants. Plaintiff proposes that an ADC budget be computed for each applicant. This would include rent as paid up to the county maximum. However, in many social services districts (including New York City) shelter grants above the maximum are allowed when the county determines that factual circumstances warrant an exception. If a person whose rent is above the county's maximum applies for Medical Assis in a county which has an exception policy, the person processing the application will not know what the applicant's public assistance grant would be if the applicant were eligible for public assistance. The applicant may or may not be a person who would be granted an exception if he were a public assistance applicant. The procedure for computing public assistance grants is not as mechanical as plaintiff alleges.

According to paragraph 17 of Rene H. Relach's Affidavit in support of a class action determination, out of a total of 62 counties, there are 32 counties in which some, but not all, household sizes can be subject to lower Medical Assistance standards then public assistance allowances. In other words, in 32 counties some, but not all, Medical Assistance-only recipients are class members. If plaintiff is successful in this lawsuit, two separate formulae would then be in effect for computing income levels: plaintiff's method for class members and the present method for nonmembers. This dual system probably will be difficult or impossible to administer. The administrative difficulties of that situation might require the use of plaintiff's

- 6 -MYERS AFFIDAVIT method of computation statewide to the detriment of nonmembers of plaintiff's class. If nonmembers of the class have their Medical Assistance income levels computed by plaintiff's method rather than by the schedule 1 SSL & 366.2(a)(8), they will be allowed to keep less income for their nonmedical needs than at present. The class members are persons whose high rents cause their Medical Assistance income exemption level to be below what their public assistance grant would be if they had no income or resources. The nonmembers are persons whose low rents cause their Medical Assistance income exemption level to be above what their public assistance grant would be if they had no income or resources. Under plaintiff's system, these nonmembers would be allowed to keep only what their public assistance grant would be, not the higher amount provided by SSL s366.2(a)(8). For instance, a family of three receiving Medical Assistance-only under the present system may keep \$333 of their income for their nonmedical needs. Under plaintiff's system, they would be able to keep only what their public assistance grant would be if they had no income or resources. This would be \$200 plus a shelter allowance (SSL gl31-a.3). The shelter allowance is rent as paid up to a district maximum (18 NYCRR g352.3(c)). Every three person household on Medical Assistance-only whose public assistance shelter allowance would be less than \$133 would be able to keep less income using plaintiff's methodology than they can keep now using SSL §366.2(a)(8). Bereden a. Maj Sworn to before me this ie # day of July, 1975. NOTARY PUBLIC THOMAS O. MUSIC Notary Public in the State of fleet York Questind in One-de Georgy By Fernmission Seattle Mar. 20, 10-76 -92-

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1.

STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN PROPOSAL, 1969 (PART)-NYSSL § 366. AND RELATED PROVISIONS, EXHIBIT A TO MYERS AFFIDAVIT (2) All adults who are not otherwise eligible for med cal assistance but who meet the requirements of the constrophic illness provision as established by Section 366 of the Social Services Law 3. The following are all of the conditions of eligibility that must be met by individuals in all groups specified in Item 2, above: a. State residence required (no duration requirement). Medical assistance will be provided for persons in need who are temporarily in the State but who have not entered the State for the purpose of receiving such care and treatment. b. No age requirement. c. No citizenship requirement. d. Voluntary assignment or transfer of property has not been made for the purpose of qualifying for such assistance. B. Financial Elicibility D-4200 The following levels of income and resources for maintenance, in total dollar amounts, will be used as a basis for establishing financial eligibility for medical assistance, and are in accordance with D-4200 A, Item 1 a,b,c, and d: Section 366 of the Social Services Law "....2. (a) The following income and resources shall be exempt and shall neither be taken into consideration nor required to be applied toward the payment or part payment of the co. of medical care and service available under this Title: (1) a homestead which is essential and appropriate to the needs of the household; essential personal property; (2) (3) liquid resources in the amount of five hundred dollars for each person, but not in excess of two thousand dollars per family, as a burial (4) savings in amounts equal to at least one-half reserve; of the appropriate income exemptions allowed; EXHIBIT A

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(5) income taxes;

(6) health insurance premiums;

(7) payments for support of dependents required to be made pursuant to court order; and

(8) income in an amount set forth in the following schedule:

Annual net income - Number of family members in a house-hold and family members for whom they are legally responsible or have assumed responsibility.

One Two Three Four Five Six Seven \$2200 \$3100 1 \$4000 \$5000 \$5700 \$6400 \$7200

Such income exemptions shall be increased by six hundred dollars for each member of a family household in excess of seven..."

b. MA - determination of need. Board Rule Section 85.3

"For the purpose of ascertaining need for medical assistance, in addition to the income and resources which are exempted in subdivision 2 of Section 366 of the Social Services Law, the following shall be exempt and shall neither be taken into consideration nor required to be applied toward the payment or part payment of the cost of medical assistance:

- (a) Contributions not in excess of \$1080 annually made to a family household by a person other than a member of such family household who resides therein; and
- (b) in the case of a person in chronic care \$15 per month for his personal expenses.

For the purpose of this section and subparagraph (8) of the paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of Section 366 of the Social Services Law, when a person is in chronic care he shall not be deemed to be a member of any household except he shall be considered a member of his former family household for the purpose of determining the amount of the savings exemption for such family household."

2. There will be a flexible measurement of available income which will be applied in the following order of priority:

-94-

- a. First, for maintenance, so that any income in an amount at or below the established level will be protected for maintenance;
- b. Next, income in excess of that needed for maintenance will be applied to costs incurred for medical insurance premiums and for necessary medical or remedial care recognized under State law and not encompassed within the State Plan for medical assistance;
- c. All of the remaining excess income will be applied to costs of medical assistance included in the State plan in accordance with the following policies set forth in Regulation 360.5 and Board Rule 85.4:
- (1) Determination of net available income and utilization of any excess

Department Regulation Section 360.5

- "(a) In determining the net available income of an individual or a family household, the following verified items shall be deducted from gross income:
 - income taxes;
 - (2) health insurance premiums: and
 - (3) payments for support of _pendents required to be made pursuant to court order.
- (b) The available net income shall be compared with the income exemptions for such individuals or family to determine the excess, if any, which may be utilized to meet all or part of the cost of medical care and services of such individuals or family.
- (c) For an applicant or recipient who, if needy, would be eligible for AABD, ADC or HR, the amount of income that is required to be or may be disregarded or set aside for his future needs in the category for which he would be eligible, shall not be considered as being available when applying the criteria for establishing his financial eligibility for medical assistance.
- (d) The excess income shall be utilized in accordance with Prard Rule Section 85.4.

- (e) In making a determination of net income and amounts of excess income which may be utilized to meet all or part of the medical care and services of an individual who, or a family household which, receives a fixed annual salary, which is paid in a lump sum or over a period of time which is less than the annual period, such fixed annual salary shall be divided by twelve in order to determine net available monthly income for the annual period covered by such salary."
- (2) Income and resources to be utilized
 Board Rule Section 85.4
 - "(a) Applicants or recipients not in receipt of chronic care.
 - (1) If an applicant or recipient is not receiving chronic care in a medical institution, all resources in excess of those exempt from consideration in accordance with paragraph (a) subdivision 2 of Section 366 of the Social Service Law and Section 85.3 of these rules shall be utilized to meet the cost of medical assistance for such applicant or recipient and other members of his family household.
 - (2) The income of such applicant or recipient shall be utilized in the following manner:
 - (i) for inpatient hospital care, only the excess income for a period of six months shall be considered as available for payment;
 - (ii) for prosthetic appliances, including dentures only the income for a period of six months shall be considered as available for payment.
 - (iii) for other medical care and services outside a medical institution, only the excess income for the month or months in which care or

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN PROPOSAL 1969 services are given shall be considered as available for payment.

- (b) Applicants or recipients in receipt of chronic care
 - (1) If an applicant or recipient is receiving chronic care in a medical institution all resources in excess of those exempt from consideration in accordance with paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of Section 366 of the Social Services Law and Section 85.3 of these rules shall be utilized to meet the cost of medical assistance for each applicant or recipient and the other members of his former family household.
 - (2) The income of such applicant or recipient shall be utilized in the following order:
 - (i) To meet the maintenance needs of the dependent members of his former family household, less any amount of income in cash or in kind possessed by such dependent members in accordance with the following schedules:

ANNUAL NET INCOME - MINIMUM RESERVE FOR MAINTENANCE OF FAMILY HOUSE-HOLD OF PERSONS DEPENDENT FOR SUPPORT UPON APPLICANT OR RECIPIENT IN CHRONIC CARE

CHRONIC (NUMBER	OF	FAMILY	MEMBERS	IN	HOUSEHOLD	DEPENDENT	ON	INCOME	
	ONE \$2200	•	TWO 3100	THREE \$4000		FOUR \$5000	FIVE \$5700		6400	SEVEN \$7200

Such minimum reserve shall be increased by \$600 for each member of family household in excess of seven who is dependent upon the income of the applicant or recipient in chronic care.

- (ii) the balance, if any, to meet the cost of his medical assistance."
- 3(a). All income and resources except those disregarded and set aside for future needs (See Department Regulation 360.5 (c) above) will be considered in establishing eligibility and payment toward the medical assistance costs.
- (b). Payments for Medical Service and Care by a Third Party (Department Regulation 360.21)
 - (1) The local agency will take reasonable measures to ascertain any legal liability of third parties for the medical care and services included under the plan, the need of which arises out of injury, disease, or disability of applicants for or recipients of medical assistance.

- (2) The local agency, in determining whether medical assistance is payable, will treat any third party liability as a current resource when such liability is found to exist and payment by the third party has been made or will be made within a reasonable time.
- (3) The local agency will not withold payment in behalf of an eligible individual because of the liability or the amount thereof cannot be currently established or is not currently available to pay the individuals medical expense.
- (4) The local agency will seek reimbursement from a third party for assistance provided when the party's liability is established after assistance is granted and in any other case in which the liability of a third party existed, but was not treated as a current resource.
- Only such income and resources as are actually available will be considered; income and resources will be reasonably evaluated; and only such income and resources will be considered as will be "in hand" within a period of 6 months ahead, including the month in which services were rendered for inpatient and prosthetic appliance or for the month or months in which services were rendered for which payment will be made for all other medical care or service under the plan.
- 5. The financial responsibility of any individual for any applicant or recipient of medical assistance will be limited to the responsibility of spouse for spouse, and parents of children under age 21.

Legally responsible relatives living apart from dependent relatives. Board Rule 85.5

"The ability of a spouse living apart from dependent relatives to contribute toward the cost of care of his or her spouse and of a parent living apart from dependent relatives to contribute toward the cost of care of his minor dependent child shall be ascertained as follows:

(a) The following income and resources shall be exempt and shall constitute a reserve for the legally responsible relatives and members of his family household:

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN PROPOSAL 1969

- (1) a homestead which is essential and appropriate to the needs of the household:
- (2) essential personal property;
- (3) liquid resources in the amount of \$500 for each member of the family household but not in excess of \$2000 per family as a burial reserve;
- (4) savings in amounts equal to at least one-half of the appropriate income reserve; and
- (5) income in an amount set forth in the following schedule

ANNUAL NET INCOME - MINIMUM RESERVED FOR MAINTAINING OF FAMILY HOUSEHOLD OF LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE RELATIVES LIVING APART FROM APPLICANT OR RECIPIENT NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS IN HOUSEHOLD DEPENDENT ON IT COME

NOMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS IN HOUSEHOLD BEFENDENT ON THE

ONE	TWO	THREE		FIVE	네 하는 집단 때 내용하게 보면 계획이 보다니다.	SEVEN
\$2200	\$3100	\$4000	\$5000	\$5700	\$6400	\$7200

Such minimum reserve shall be increased by \$600 for each member of a family household in excess of seven, who is dependent upon the income of such members.

- (b) The amount in excess of the minimum income reserve for maintenance of the family household of the legally responsible relative living apart from the applicant or recipient shall be deemed to be the amount of contribution the spouse or parent is able to make prospectively toward the cost of medical assistance of the applicant or recipient.
- (c) Only the amount actually received shall be applied toward meeting the needs of the applicant or recipient. Such actual contributions shall be applied first toward the maintenance needs of the applicant or recipient, including a monthly amount for the personal expenses of a person in chronic care equal to the difference between his income, if any, and \$15, and the balance of such contributions, if any, toward the cost of medical assistance, as follows:
 - (1) the amount of resources in excess of those reserved shall be paid as a refund;
 - (2) in the event there is any balance remaining on a hospital claim, after the payment of the resources in excess of those reserved, the excess income for

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN PROPOSAL 1969

a period of six months shall be paid as a refund:

(3) in the event medical care and services, other than inpatient hospital care are being furnished the excess income for the month or months in which care or services are given shall be paid as a refund.

D-4220B NOTE: The following items are applicable to the categorically needy:

- The financial eligibility conditions of the pertinent State plan will apply.
- 2. Income will be applied first to maintenance costs.
- Only income and resources which are actually available will be considered and income and resources will be reasonably evaluated.
- 4. The financial responsibility of any individual for any applicant or recipient of medical assistance will be limited to the responsibility of spouse for spouse and of parents for children under age 21.

D-4700 C. Blindness

1. The following is the State's definition of blindness in terms of opthalmic measurement:

A person is defined as blind who is totally blind or has impaired vision of not more than 20/200 visual acuity in the better eye and for whom a diagnosis and medical findings show that vision cannot be improved to better than 20/200; or who has loss of vision due wholly or in part to impairment of field vision or to other factors which affect the usefulness of vision to a like degree.

- 2. In any instance in which a determination is to be made whether an individual is blind according to the State's definition, there will be an examination by a physician skilled in the diseases of the eye or by an optometrist, whichever the individual may select.
- 3. Each eye examination report form will be reviewed by a State supervising opthamologist who is responsible for the agency's decision that the applicant does or does not meet the State's definition of blindness.

LETTLE FROM JAMES C. CALLISON, REGIONAL COMMISSIONER OF NEW TO GLORGL K. WYMAN, COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, DATED APRIL 1, 1970, WITH ATTACHMENT, APPROVING STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN, EXHIBIT B TO MYERS AFFIDAVIT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE AND ALLENDARY AND SELFARE AND SELFA SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICE April 1, 1970 /. Mr. George K. Wyman Commissioner State Department of Social Services P.O. Box 1740 Albany, New York Dear Mr. Wyman: Your Submittal 75-69 amending New York State's Title XIX Plan for Medical Assistance has been reviewed and approved for incorporation into the State's approved We understand that when the cost-sharing provision is implemented by the State the procedure used will be as outlined in Transmittal 69 PaD-73. Sincerely, 11. James C. Callison Regional Commissioner Enclosure ELHIBIT B -101-2-8

Serial and Rehabilitation Service FOR APA-553 STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN APA-OVAL (Rev. 1/52)

Budget Bureau No. 122-k006

SUBMITTAL AND REPORT OF ACTION ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PLAN MATERIALS

1. To:	Department	of	Health,	Education,	and	Welfare
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.... -

2. Date December 9, 1969

Regional Office 26 Federal Plaza, No. May York New York s. Submittal No. S-75-50

Attention: Associate Regional Commissioner, Assistance Payments Administration

New York State Department of Social Services (State public assistance agency)

Enclosed are six copies of the following materials submitted for approval as part of the State's plans for public assistance: e. Signature

e. Title____Acting Commissioner

Identification of material and program affected	Outline reference	Effective date	Material superseded	Dis- posi- tion	
7		9	10	1/11	12
New York State Plan of Title XIX Pages 7 - 12d Pages 17c, 17d	Sec.III Item D4200 D4800 Section IV D5400	V arious 1/1/70	Pages 7 - 12e Page 17c	AL AL	

		New	York	State	Department	of	Social	Services	 14. Date 3/31/70
14.	10:								 1000

16. Items A and AL accepted for incorporation. 3/31/70 ** ASSESSED POST TO COME TO SEE TO SEE (Date)

(A) Has been accepted for incorporation into the State's approved plan. (AL) Has been accepted for incorporation into the State's approved plan, comments in letters.

(O) Has been filed as other than plan material.

^{15.} The above materials were received in the regional office on

^{1/} The symbols inserted indicate that the item: Regional Commissioner

⁽NI) Is under consideration and notice of action will be sent later.

STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN PROPOSAL, 1974 (PART) PROPOSED COMPLIANCE WITH 45 C.F.R. § 248.21, Exhibit E to Myers Affidavit

State NET YORK

Citation 45 CFR 248.40 P.R.10-6(C-1) 2.3 Residence

Medical assistance is furnished to eligible individuals who are residents of the State but are absent therefron, to the extent and under the circumstances specified in 45 CFR 248.40. The State agency facilitates the meeting of medical needs within the State for residents of other States.

45 CFR 248.70 P.R. 10-11 2.4 Blindness

- (a) The definition of blindness in terms of ophthalmic measurement which is used in this plan is contained in ATTACHERY 2.2-A.
- (b) All other requirements of 45 CFR 248.70 are met.

45 CFR 248.80 P.R. 10-11 2.5 Disability

- (a) The definition of permanently and totally disabled which is used in this plan is contained in ATTACEENT 2.2-A.
- (b) All other requirements of 45 CFR 248.80 are met.

45 CFR 248.21 P.R. 10-11 2.6 Financial Eligibility

- (a) Categorically needy. The financial eligibility conditions of the pertinent assistance plans are applied.
- (b) Medically needy.
 - The levels of income and resources, expressed in total dollar amounts, which are used as a basis for establishing eligibility under the plan are as described in ATTACHENT 2.6-A.

 These income levels and resources meet the requirements of 45 CFR 248.21.
 - Not pplicable. The medically needy are not included in the plan.

EXHIBIT E

State NET YORK

Citation 45 CFR 248.21 P.R. 10-11

- (c) The financial responsibility of certain relatives for costs of medical care and services provided for an applican or recipient of medical assistance w l be taken into account.
 - Yes. The extent of responsibility is described in ATTACHERT 2.6-A.
 - Not applicable. No responsibility is imposed on relatives for costs of care and services provided under the plan.
- (d) All other requirements of 45 CFR 248.21 are met.

State MET YORK

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			CATECORICALLY	MEEDY	AND	MEDICALLY	LIFFAL
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- A. Financial responsibility is imposed on the following relatives with respect to care and services provided under the plan:
 - 1. Spouse for spouse

X Yes. .

Yes, with the following exceptions:

No responsibility is imposed

Parents for children under age 21

X/ Yes.

Yes, with the following exceptions:

☐ No responsibility is imposed

3. Parents for children of any age who are blind

☐ Yes.

Yes, with the following exceptions:

No responsibility is imposed

- 4. Parents for children of any age who are disabled
 - 7 Yes.
 - [7] Yes, with the following exceptions:
 - No responsibility is imposed
- B. The following income scale is used to determine a relative's capacity to contribute toward the cost of medical care and services provided under the plan to a spouse and/or child(ren) not residing with such relative:

Number of persons in relative's household (including the relative)	Income level at which relative . considered capable of contribu- ing to costs of medical care of spouse or child(ren)
i	\$ 2500
2	\$ 3400
3	\$ 4000
4	\$ 5000
5	. \$ 5700
6	\$ 6400
7	\$ 7200
8	\$ 7900
9	\$ 8400
10	\$ 9000
Each additional family member	\$ 600

Not applicable. No relatives are held financially responsible for costs of medical and remedial care and services

- C. The following provisions relate to the financial condition of individuals in facilities for long term care:
 - 1. For the categorically needy, budgeted amounts are allowed for personal needs, upkeep of home and/or care of dependents:

N	Yes.	The following budgeted amounts are	allowed:
	[X]	For patient's personal needs	\$17 mo.
	X	For maintenance of spouse at home	\$1010,00 annually
	Ø	For maintenance of each additional dependent at home	\$ 600.00 annually
	X	For maintenance of home to which patient expects to return	as paid, up \$to 60 days

- ☐ Not applicable. No such amounts are budgeted.
- For the medically needy, eligibility and excess income are determined on the basis of amounts shown in paragraph C.l., above

Not	applicable.	The medically	needy	are	not	covere
Yes						
Yes	with follow	ing variations			٠	

No. The following provision are applicable.

Income level for medically needy determined on same scale as scale at B and II Ac.

II. MEDICALLY NEEDY ONLY - OTHER FINANCIAL CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

- A. Treatment of income
 - 1. Income levels protected for maintenance are

Net income, computed as follows:

Family members

one two three four five six seven 2,500 3,400 4,000 5,000 5,700 6,400 7,200

☑ Gross income, determined as follows:

All income earned or unearned, (except those protected by legislative intent) with these deductions:

(1) Income taxes

(2) Health Insurance Fremiums

(3) Payments for support of dependents pursuant to court order

II. A. (continuel)

- 2. Income levels by family size
 - a. The State agency uses urban and rural differentials in establishing the amounts of income protected for maintenance
 - Yes. These amounts are indicated in columns (2) and (4) of the table in paragraph c., below.
 - No such differentials are used. The income levels for all medically needy individuals are as stated in column (2)
 - b. The income levels protected for maintenance exceed the level of the most liberal money payment standard used in any of the State's categorical money payment programs, or 133.1/3% of the highest amount ordinarily paid to an AFD: family, whichever is less.
 - Yes. The State agency has methods for excluding from its claim for Federal financial participation payments of amounts equivalent to those in columns (3) and (5).
 - No. Income levels are not in excess of those permitted by 45 CFR 248.21.
 - c. The following table specifies the annual income levels protected for maintenance which are used under this plan:

Family Size	Income level protected for maintenance	Amount by which Column (2) exceeds limits specified in 45 CFR 248.21	Income level for persons living in rural areas	Amount by which Column (4) exceeds limits specified in 45 CFP 248.21
73	(2)	(3)	1 (4)	(5)
	\$ 2500	S	4 \$	IS
2	\$ 3400	S	li S	18
3	S con	S	il S	3
1.	S FROO	1 S	ii S	15
5 11	\$ 5700	S .	11 8	S
6 11	\$ 6000	S	11 S	1 S
7	\$ 7200	S	ii S	S
. 8	\$ 7900	1 8	11 3	18
9	\$ 9400	S	II S	S
.10	\$ 9000	\$	1.8	l S
For each Additional Person add	\$ 600		\$	•

-109.

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PLAN COMPLIANCE WITH 45 C.F.R. § 248.21, EXHIBIT F TO MYERS AFFIDAVIT P.R. . .1975

TWENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE AND FEMALISTATION SERVICE STON, D.C. 10101

Submit 6 Copies .

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICE STATE PLAN PROGRAMS

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AFFIDAVIT OF RENE H. REIXACH, SWORN TO AUGUST 1, 1975, IN OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT LAVINE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

75 Civ. 1224

-against-

MEF

ABE LAVINE, et al.,

AFFIDAVIT

Defendants.

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF MONROE) ss:

RENE H. REIXACH, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am a member of the Bar of this Court and one of the attorneys for the plaintiffs herein; I make this affidavit in opposition to the motion by the defendant Abe Lavine for summary judgment.
- 2. The defendant Lavine's motion for summary judgment is based in large part on an affidavit of Beverlee Myers, a Deputy Commissioner of the New York State Department of Social Services. In that affidavit she assets that the medical assistance income allowances are based upon some sort of averaging which allegedly comports with the policies of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.
- 3. Such assertions hardly rise to the level of undisputed facts required for summary judgment under Rule 56 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, which the defendant Lavine has

REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF AUGUST 1

apparently recognized by failing to include any such purported facts in a Rule 9(g) statement. That alone would be sufficient to defeat his summary judgment motion.

- 4. Second, if the medical assistance income allowances were in fact based upon the basic cash public assistance level plus the average rent level at the various family sizes, it defies credulity that the medical assistance income allowances for families of three or more are in 1975 the same as they were six years ago in 1969 (after a reduction in 1969). During that same period the basic cash public assistance levels set out in the New York Social Services Law have been increased by some twenty to fifty percent. Moreover, it is incontrovertible that rent levels have risen precipitously over the last six years. Indeed, in a letter written on March 5, 1975, by the Defendant Lavine and produced in another action in this Court, Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, he pointed out that even 1972 shelter costs were no longer valid. As he put it, "It is unrealistic to believe that 1972 shelter cost data is applicable today." A copy of that letter is annexed hereto.
- 5. Third, it is respectfully submitted that pursuant to Rule 56 (f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure it would be appropriate to refuse the defendant Lavine's application for summary judgment at this time. Both sets of parties erroneously proceeded under an old regulation, no longer applicable in New York, until about a month ago, after the plaintiffs had already moved for summary judgment. The defendant's averaging theory

REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF AUGUST 1

was first asserted in the papers in support of his summary judgment motion, served by mail fifteen (15) days before the return date. Inasmuch as the plaintiffs have moved for summary judgment discovery has not seemed appropriate; in light of the substantial questions raised concerning the validity of the purported averaging by the defendant (see paragraph 4, supra), the fact that this litigation is only four plus months old and that since the plaintiffs moved for summary judgment two months ago discovery by them has been inappropriate, it is presently impossible for the plaintiffs to demonstrate more fully the flaws in the defendant's averaging theory.

WHEREFORE your deponent prays that the motion by the defendant for summary judgment be denied.

Rene H. Reixach

Sworn to before me

this 1st day of August, 1975.

K. WADE EATON

Notary Public in the State of New York

MONROE COUNTY, N. Y.

Commission Expires March 30, 19.76

LETTER FROM ABE LAVINE, COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, TO PETER C. GOLDMARK, DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF THE EUDGET, DATED MARCH 5 1975, EXHIBIT TO REIXACH AFFIDAVIT OF AUGUST 1

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

1450 WESTERN AVENUE

ALBANY, NEW YORK

ABE LAVINE Commissionér

March 5, 1975

Dear Mr. Goldmark:

A decision is urgently needed on the question of shelter allowances for public assistance recipients.

Unless action is taken by March 10, 1975, regulations now on file with the Secretary of State, with significant fiscal implications, will be effective on April 1, 1975.

The background is as follows:

In order to resolve an outstanding compliance issue with the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare relating to New York State's Shelter Policy, in 1974 the Department established maximum shelter allowances for each local district.

The allowances, which varied by family size, were based on date from a 1972 survey of shelter costs. Allowances for rent as paid up to the maximum were permitted, with no exceptions.

The initial effective date was April 1 1974, but due to the reaction of community groups, there were two postponements — one to Januar 1, 1975 and the next to April 1, 1975. Thus the policy will automatically go into effect on April 1 if Department regualtion (18 NYCRR 352.3) is

I recommend the following:

- 1. Instead of permitting the pending maximum allowances to become effective, I recommend that an updated schedule reflecting 1974 costs levels be substituted. It is unrealistic to believe that 1972 shelter cost data is applicable today.
- 2. For current recipients paying rent in excess of the agency maximum, I also recommend a "grandfathering" provision to insure that no reductions in the assistance grants occur because of this policy. HEW has, in the past, indicated its objection to a grandfathering provision, but I feel that this should not be a deterent to moving ahead with such aneasement.

EXPERT S

-114-

LAVINE TO GOLDMARK, MARCH 5, 1975

A schedule containing district maximums at the 1974 level and a statement of the fiscal implications of such a policy are attached.

Establishment of maximum rent allowances would be the first step towards implementing a total flat grant. Over a period of time, the number of grandfathered cases would be reduced and cases initially receiving allowances below the maximums would gradually rise to the maximum. The maximum would then, in effect, become a flat grant.

It is of course possible to move to a total flat grant immediately and I suggest this solution as a secondary approach. I am attaching a Department proposal for a consolidated public assistance standard which discusses this approach.

The issue obviously is not a new one. In addition to the initial promulgation of regulations and the two postponements last year, it was the subject of questioning at both the Department's formal and legislative budget hearings, and was discussed in the "issues" paper which I submitted on December 23 to the Transition Team.

The March 10 deadline must be observed because by that date we must notify local social services districts and legislative leaders and file amending regulations with the Secretary of State if we are to forestall the present regulations from becoming effective on April 1.

Sincerely,

/s/ Aly Lowing

Abe Layine

Enclosures

Hon. Peter C. Goldmark, Director Division of the Budget State Capitol Albany, New York

cc: Mr. David W. Burke

PLAINTIFFS' ANSWER TO DEFENDANT LAVINE'S STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 9(g)

O UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

TARION ALTCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-V3-

ABE LAVINE, et al.,

Defendants.



75 Civ. 1224

ANSWER TO DEFENDANT LAVINE'S RULL 9(g)
STATEMENT

Insofar as the defendant Abe Lavine by his answer to the Rule 9(g) statement of plaintiffs makes a Rule 9(g) statement in support of the summary judgment motion of the defendant Lavine, the plaintiffs respectfully allege:

- 1. Deny the allegation in paragraph 2 thereof that the plaintiffs are permitted to retain \$28.50 of their total monthly income, for a total of \$361.50 monthly income, but allege that said \$28.50 is allowed to Mr. Aitchison, not a party herein, to meet his own needs.
- amounts in dollar amounts that the defendant Lavine administers are not yet in evidence, the same having been duly pleaded in paragraph 24 of the complaint and only denied insofar as that paragraph alleged that the plaintiffs' constitutional or other federally protected rights have been abridged or violated and otherwise the said paragraph 24 is deemed admitted.

PLAINTIFFS' ANSWER TO DEFENDANT LAVINE'S STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 9(g)

income of \$346.68 and alleges that in addition to a mortgage income of \$92.59 monthly they received monthly Social Security benefits of \$220.20 through June, 1975; that Mr. Aitchison, who is not a plaintiff, received Social Security benefits of \$256.30 per month through June, 1975; that effective July 1, 1975 the Social Security benefits of \$256.30 that Mr. Aitchison, who is not a plaintiff, also receives a pension currently in the amount of \$323.71 monthly.

4. Denies the allegations in paragraph 4(b) insofar as they assert that the October 3, 1973 Social Security award is income in this action rather than, at most, allowable savings or another reserve, or is relevant to this action at all.

Dated: August 1, 1975

RENE H. REIKACH, ESQ.
GREATER UP-STATE LAW PROJECT
MONROE COUNTY LEGAL ASSISTANCE
CORPORATION
30 West Main Street
Pochester, New York 14614
Tel: 716-454-6500

DOUGLAS J. GOOD, ESQ.
ALTON L. ABRAHOWITZ, ESQ.
LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF
ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC.
2 Congers Poad
P.O. Box 314
New City, New York 10956
Tel: 914-634-3627

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-vs-

ABE LAVINE, et al.,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 75 Civ. 1224 MEF

SUPPLEMENTAL CLASS ACTION AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF MONROE) ss:

RENE H. REIXACH, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- l. I am a member of the Bar of this ourt and one of the attorneys for the plaintiffs herein; I make this affidavit to supplement the affidavits heretofore submitted in support of the plaintiffs' motion for a class action determination.
- 2. Since the filing of the plaintiffs' class action motion the income allowance tables of the New York Social Service. Law, section 366.2(a)(8), have been increased by the Legislature. By Chapter 480 of the Laws of 1975 those income allowances were increased to the levels shown in the bill which is Exhibit G to the affidavit of Beverlee Myers in opposition to this motion. By Chapter 481 the levels for one and two person families were further increased. While the increases for one and two person families were effective retroactive to July 1, 1975, the increases for families of three or more will not be effective until October 1, 1975. Set forth below are the amended

income levels including the October 1, 1975 increase:

Family Size 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Annual Income \$2700 3800 4200 5000 5800 6500 7400 8100

Monthly Income 225 317 350 417 483 542 617 675

- 3. Since those levels have been increased, and the class consists of all persons whose monthly public assistance level of need would be higher than such levels, the size of the class has shrunk. Based upon the methodology set forth in paragraph 14 of my prior affidavit in support of the class action motion, dated May 19, 1975, I have recomputed the 58 charts which were annexed to the affidavit of James Reynclds, dated May 19, 1975, in support of the class action motion. As in the prior version of these charts, where a number in column 3 or 4 is circled the medical assistance standard exceeds the public assistance maximum, so persons so situated would be outside the class. Where a number in column 3 or 4 is not circled the public assistance allowance can be higher than the medical assistance allowance, and people for whom the public assistance standard is higher than under medical assistance are within the class. Copies of the 50 revised sheets are annexed.
- 4. The effect of this change is as follows. Instead of there being 16 counties plus all of New York City where persons can be in the class at all family sizes and rental arrangements there are now 5 such counties, all in suburban or exurban New York

City, namely Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan and Westchester. As Exhibit "B" to my prior affidavit showed, those counties have substantial numbers of medical assistance recipients; in January, 1975, there were 39,056 persons receiving medical assistance but not public assistance in those 5 counties.

- 5. The number of counties in which persons at some but not all family sizes or rent arrangements could be in the class drops from 32 to 30 under the new schedule. The number of counties where the problem herein cannot exist because in all cases the medical assistance level exceeds the public assistance level increases from 7 to 23.
- 6 It should be noted, however, that the rent schedules upon which these calculations are based are in a state of flux. In another action pending in this Court, Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024 JMC, challenging those rent levels, the defendant state commissioner has indicated that effective October 1, 1975 new rent schedules are expected to be put into effect. Annexed hereto is a copy of the affidavit of Ralph McMurry, Assistant Attorney General, dated August 7, 1975, and exhibits thereto, to that effect.
- 7. In certain cases those proposed changes would affect the category in which a county would fall in this action.

Under the proposed schedules three counties, Chemung, Franklin and Oswego would shift from the group where persons could never be in the class to the group where some could while others could not. Likewise the group of counties where persons could be in the class at all family sizes and rent arrangements would be increased by three counties, Herkimer, Orange and Putnam, plus New York City. Thus there would be 8 counties plus New York City where class membership could exist at all family sizes and rent arrangements, 30 counties where class membership could exist, only in some cases, and 20 counties where it could not exist.

8. While these changes represent an improvement over the situation when this case was filed they do not solve the problem. The named plaintiffs, for example, will come October 1, 1975, be allowed \$350 per month, \$17 more than now, but still \$90 less than the public assistance level for them. Likewise the size of the gap in some counties will have actually increased. For families of four, for example, the medical assistance income allowance has stayed the same, but shelter allowances will generally increase. That fact, of course, is also a further demonstration of the inherent contradictions of the assertion by the defendant state commissioner that the medical assistance allowances are based on some sort of average rents. If rent levels are increased for families of four, as proposed, then the four person medical assistance level would increase too under the commissioner's contention. The fact is, however, that it has not.

9. The papers from Nero v. Lavine are also instructive insofar as the commissioner herein asserts that because of exceptions to the rent levels in New York City and elsewhere it would be impossible to use the plaintiffs' proposed method of calculation since in such areas the public assistance level cannot be determined. As the submission to HEW (Exhibit C to the McMurry affidavit) shows, such exceptions will be phased out over the next two regular recertifications, taking no more than one year.

WHEREFORE, deponent respectfully prays that the plaintiffs' class action motion be granted.

RENE H. REIXACH

Sworn to before me this 27th day of August, 1975.

K. WADE EATON

Notary Public in the State of New York

MONROE COUNTY, N. Y.

Commission Expires March 30, 19

[Charts deleted. Corrected charts appear ex pp.1502070 & this Appending.] Affidavit of Ralph L. McMurry, sworn to August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y., Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of August 27.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

DIANE NERO; LYNN RANZER; PAULINE HINES; URSELINE FINDLAY; and HARRIET TAYLOR, On Behalf of Themselves and All Other Similarly Situated,

> Plaintiffs, . .

75 Civ. 1024 JMC . AFFIDAVIT

- against -

ABE LAVINE, Individually and in His Capacity as Commissioner of the New York State Department of Social Services,

Defendant.

STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF ALBANY)

RALPH McMURRY, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- '1. I am an Assistant Attorney General in the office of Louis Lefkowitz, Attorney General of the State of New York. I submit this Affidavit in opposition to plaintiffs' application for preliminary and permanent injunctive relief.
- 2. A copy of a submittal of the new shelter plan to the New York State Budget Director Peter Coldmark by New York State Social Services Commissioner Berger is annexed as Exhibit "A". A copy of Mr. Goldmark's reply is annexed as Exhibit "B". A copy of the Department's submittal to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is annexed as Exhibit "C".

 Repr. M. M. C. M. C. Ralph L. McMurry

Sworn to before me this 7th day of August, 1975

Glenn R Lilebra Notary Public

Ollary County = 460 8937 Commession expires 3/30177 723-

Affidavit of Ralph L. McMurry, sworn to August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y., Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of August 27.

August 5, 1975

Comissioner

Dear Peter:

Enclosed for your consideration is the Department's proposed schedule of rent allowances for New York State public assistance recipients. Rent as paid will be provided up to the naximums of the schedule. The schedule does not include an amount for heating fuel. For housing in which the rent includes heat, the naximum rent allowance is computed by adding the maximum rent of the new rent schedule to the heating fuel allowance of 18 NYCRR 352.5(a) (enclosed). For housing in which the rent does not include heat, a separate allowance for Leating is granted pursuant to 18 NYCRR 352.5(a).

It is anticipated that the new rent schedule will be filed by September 1, 1975, effective October 1, 1975.

I hope that this latter has been useful in explaining the Department's new shalter policy.

Sincerely,

Stephen Berger Commissioner

A district the same of the same of the same of the same of

EH/Hi Bure

Mr. Peter C. Goldmark, Jr. Director Division of the Budget The State Capitol Albany, New York 12224

EXHIBIT "A"

-124-

Affidavit of Ralph L. McMurry, sworn to August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y., Exhibit to Rejxach affidavit of August 27.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

DIVISION OF THE BUDGET

PETER C. GOLDMARK, JR.

August 5, 1975

ALSANY 12224

The Honorable Stephen Berger Commissioner Department of Social Services 1450 Western Avenue Albany, New York 12243

Dear Commissioner Berger:

This is to inform you that we have reviewed the schedules of maximum welfare recipient shelter allowances proposed in your communication of August 5, 1975 and have no objection to such schedules. It is our understanding that these schedules will be filed with the Secretary of State for inclusion in departmental regulations so that the schedules can be implemented as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

EXHIBIT "B"

-125-

Affidavit of Ralph L. McMurry, sworn to August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y., Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of August 27.

Angust 4, 1975

Hr. Elect Smith
Regional Commissioner
Region II
Social and Rehebblitation Survice
Department of Health, Resestion
and Volfare
26 Federal Plana
Hea York, Hea York 10007

Pas Submittal No. 75-39

National Forthly Shelter Allowance

Dear Mr. Smiths

As requested at the meeting on July 31, 1975 between representatives of this Department and your staff we are formally subditting the Department's shelter policy which will be effective October 1, 1975. The subdittal includes

- Schedule of local agency maximum monthly shalter allocates with and without heat.
- A draft administrative letter to local agencies accouncing the policy and providing instructions for implementation.

As indicated at the meeting, the banks for our policy is the Department's 1972 Shelter Study, conducted under the close expervision of your Department, and in its final form approved by you. During July, 1975 we conducted a shelter allowance review in order to establish an update mechanism whereby the allowances developed from the 1972 study data could be increased to provide recipiouss an adequate allowance in today's market. The methodology was provided to your staff at the July 31st meeting.

end local agencies will be instructed by an Administrative Letter to apply the reviced shelter policy - rest as paid up to the agency merican - for all new and reopened cases. For the undercare caseload, rest will be continued to be paid up to the agency medium. For those existing cases above the newly established merican, the recipient will be infered at the next regularly sampled recontification and/or first personal contact of the new policy and adviced that at the next recentification,

Affidavit of Ralph L. McMurry, sworn to August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y., Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of August 27.

-2-

m/she will be granted the experience agency random by family aim in that district. We expect the phase-in of our revised shelter policy will not exceed our year.

The Department is attempting through this policy to resolve the HELL compliance issues and to amindy the relief sought by the plaintiffs in Hero et al.v. Laring. After resolving those two immediate issues and after surflement time has elipsed to permit an evaluation of the experiences of the clients and of the local districts under this policy, we emilcipate proceeding with a review of a wide range of issues in the area of shelter for PA recipiants, including the feasibility of consolidation of the current root allowed schedule.

Based upon your exercial of our 1972 Shelter Study, I trust thatcor modification is acceptable. We look forward to your proupt exercial and your continued convertion in the further development of a shelter policy for less York State.

Sinceraly,

Mancho Bernstein

Ecclosures

SJ:EAS:HB;ed

Affidavit of Ralph L. McMurry, sworn to August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y.,

ATTEMPTED TOTAL TOTAL AND A REIXACH affidavit of August 27.

8/4/75

Effective: October 1, 1975

70: Comissioners of Social Services

SUBJECT: Smilter Allowances

Distribution: All Public Assistance Staff
Accounting Staff

The purpose of this Administrative Letter is to transmit a revised state-ide shalter policy which marriates use of maximum monthly shelter allowance schedules by district effective October 1, 1975.

The following Administrative Letters relating to shelter ellowences are hereby scircles 74 AUI-24, 74 AUI-179, and 75 AUI-25.

Shelter Policy

An allowance for rest in private textal housing and recipient-owned property shall be made in the arount actually paid by the recipient but not in excess of the appropriate maximum for the social services district as indicated on the attached schools. The maximum allowances represent firm administrative callings for rest. Acceptions shall not be allowed.

Description of the Shelter Policy

I. Amlication

initial

Effective October 1, 1975, in determining/eligibility for

public assistance and the amount of the monthly great and allowances

the rest allowance shall be based on the policy stated above.

II. Recortification

In all regular recertifications initiated on or after; October 1, 1975, rent allowancescatall be reviewed against the appropriate maximum received allowance of the social services district. Front as paid up to the appropriate agency maximum shall be provided.

Affidavit of Ralph L. McMurry, sworn to August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y., Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of August 27.

-2-

If the current rest is above the agency medium, the recipient mall be informed of the egency regions at the most regularly scheduled recortiffication and advised that at the most recentification rest shall be provided in accordance with the expressions agency maximum for the family mize. Until that second recentification the case shall be continued at the current lovel. Referral shall be made to the Services Division to provide whatever impaing relocation services may be moded and requested by the recipient.

III. Comes in Case Circumstances or Personal Contact Requiring Pavion of Rent Alloranco

film a rest allowers is being reviewed because of a charge in case circumtances or at the request of the recipient, a revised allows shall be mide in accordance with the policy stated herein. Such circumstances shall include, but are not limited to

- a request for appears in the position continues
 - a request for an increase in a rent allowance

Pege replacements to Dalletin 134 will be forthooning.

Doratty Courtssion

Affidavit of Ralph L. McMurry, sworn to
August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C
from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y.,
Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of August 27
LOCAL ATERIC MATTER SELTER ALLOWANCES WITHOUT HEAT

By Family Size

	1	2	2	4.	5	6	7	8+
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Affidavit of Palph L. McMurry, sworn to August 7, 1975 with Exhibits A through C from Nero v. Lavine, 75 Civ. 1024, S.D.N.Y., Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of August 27.

LOCAL ACTION MAININ MINITALY SHELTER ALLOMANCES WITH HEAT ...
By Family Size

	1	2	2	Á	5.	6	Z	<u>8+</u>
Albany Allegary Proces Cattarangus Cayuga Chantanqua Chemung Chemango Clinton Columbia Cortland Delaware Dutchess Erie Essex Franklin Fulton Genesee Groens Hamilton Harkiner Jefferson Lewis Livingston Madison Monroe Montgo ary Nassan Rew York City Niagara Oneida Omondaga Ontsrio Orange Orleans Oorage Orleans Corege Otsego Putnan Bensselaer Rockland St. Lawrence Saratoga Schenectaty Schobarie Schuyler Seneca Steuben Suffolk Sullis an Tioga Tompidus Ulster Warren	138 110 129 97 97 101 101 121 121 121 121 121 121 121 121	71-15-7-75-75-75-75-75-75-75-75-75-75-75-75-	1755113344413131351355135513555135513555135551355135513513	187 157 157 155 157 156 157 158 159 159 159 159 159 159 159 159 159 159	189 165 197 118 168 167 1185 210 1208 169 161 162 163 164 175 163 164 175 165 166 175 175 175 175 175 175 175 175 175 175	191 167 197 197 197 197 197 197 197 198 216 198 216 198 211 170 166 172 166 173 173 204 173 215 179 215 179 215 179 215 179 215 179 215 179 216 216 217 217 217 217 217 217 217 217 217 217	193 171 173 173 173 173 173 173 173 173 17	195 175 219 162 183 200 190 162 195 230 171 177 169 234 176 199 216 182 180 196 197 199 216 221 196 231 196 231 197 199 226 239 178 199 227 140 271 197 199 227 140 271 199 227 140 271 199 227 140 271 199 227 140 22

Stipulation of Facts and Order dated September 9, 1975

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANICE AITCHISON, her children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

:

.

-against-

MBE LAVINE, individually and as

Commissioner of the Department of
Social Services of the State of New York
and NOAH MEINBERG, individually and as
Commissioner of the Department of Social
Services of Pockland County, New York,

Defendants.

STIPULATION + MUST

75 Civ. 1224

M.E.F.

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the attorneys for the respective parties as follows:

- 1. This stipulation is submitted in response to the Hemorandum for counsel, dated August 22, 1975 (hereinafter "Memorandum).
- 2. Stephen Berger is substituted for defendant NED LAVINE effective on the date of this Stipulation. See Pemorandum, para. 5.
- 3. The facts set forth in subdivisions "a" through "d" of this paragraph which were previously unclear or in dispute are agreed to. See Memorandum, paras. 1 and 2.
- a. Exhibit "C" submitted with plaintiffs'
 Notice of Class Action Motion is not may has it ever been
 the state-wide shelter allowance schedule. The alleged county

differentials between medical assistance family income and public assistance family income set forth in the affidavit of James Reynolds, sworn to May 19, 1975, and accompanying 58 tables and in the Supplemental Class Action Affidavit of Rene H. Reixach, sworn to August 27, 1975, and accompanying 58 tables are incorrect except as to Albany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chenango, Clinton, Dutchess, Erie, Essex, Monroe, Miagara, Oneida, Crange, Rockland, Steuben, Suffolk, Tompkins, Ulster and Mayne Counties which have adopted Exhibit "C" as their local schedule.

- b. At the time of the commencement of this action, the named plaintiffs constituted a family of three under NYSSL 5 366(2)(a)(3). As of the date of this Stipulation, the named plaintiffs are budgeted as a family of two under NYSSL 5 366(2)(a)(3) without prajudice to plaintiffs' claims of a larger family size in other and subsequent proceedings. The parties' positions with respect to the relevance of family size to the merits and the Class Action application were presented to the Court at oral argument on this date.
- c. At the time of the commencement of this action, the monthly income of the Aitchison family (including Mr. Aitchison) was:

Stipulation of Facts and Order dated September 9, 1975

- 1. \$256.30 (Social Security Disability for Mr. Aitchison)
- 2. \$220.20 (Social Security Disability for Mrs. Aitchison and dependents)
- 3. \$277.59 (Mr. Aitchison's pension)
- 4. \$92.59 (payment on mortgage).

On or about October 3, 1973, the Aitchisons' received \$2,570.20 (social security lump sum disability payment) which was turned over to g Mrs. Aitchison's brother in satisfaction of a previously incurred debt.

- d. At the time of this Stipulation, the monthly income of the Aitchison family (including Mr. Mitchison) was:
 - 1. \$277.40 (Social Security Disability for Mr. Aitchison)
 - 2. \$236.00 (Social Security Disability divided equally between Mrs. Aitchison and Janice Aitchison)
 - 3. \$323.71 (Mr. Aitchison's pension)
 - 4. \$92.59 (payment on mortgage)
 - 5. \$40.00 (Michael Aitchison's payment to Mrs. Aitchison)
 - 6. \$5.00 (V.A. dividend to Mr. Aitchison).
- 4. The federal and state regulations relevant to the disposition of this action are 45 C.F.R. 5 248.3(c)(1)(ii) and 13 NYCRR \$\$ 360.5(e) and 360.7(a).*

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* Section 360.5(e) will be amended shortly to conform with increased annual minimum reserves ("spend down' limits) provided in NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8), as amended.

Stipulation of Facts and Order dated September 9, 1975

additional statutes and regulations may be referred to by counsel in their briefs. In the event that NYSSL 3 366(2)(a) is found inconsistent with 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1)(ii), defendants contend that § 248.3(c)(1)(ii) is incorporation with 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(17). See Memorandum, par. 3.

5. This stipulation may be modified or supplemented as the parties may hereafter agree and the Court may permit.

Dated: New York, New York September 9, 1975

> DOUGLAS J. GOOD Legal Aid Society of Rockland County, Inc. Attorney for Plaintiffs

RENE H. REIMACH
Greater Up-State Law Project
Monroe County Legal Assistance
Corporate
Attorney for Plaintiffs

DIANA W. RIVET
County Attorney for Rockland
County
By

John B Franklin Attorney for County Defendants

LOUIS J. LEFFCMITZ
Attorney General of the
State of New York

JUD CORDON

Assistant Attorney Ceneral
Atto y for State Defendants

S. ORDERED: Ser GABER 7 1475

Art,

-135

Supplemental Stipulation of Facts dated September 24, 1975 and Order

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANICE AITCHISON, her children, and on behalf of all other person similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

STEPHEN BERGER, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York and NOAH WEINBERG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York,

Defendants.

ww.

SUPPLEMENTAL STIPULATION

75 Civ. 1224

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the attorneys for the respective parties that the Stipulation entered into on September 9, 1975 be and the same is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff Marion Aitchison lives w'th plaintiff
 Michael Aitchison (age 20) and plaintiff Janic. Aitchison (age 16)
 in an apartment at 5 K Fletcher Road, Mongey, New York, County of
 Rockland. The apartment consists of a living room, kitchen, two
 bedrooms and bath. The rent as of the date of this Stipulation
 is \$250.00 per month.
- 2. The most recent Budget Worksheet-Medical Assistance form [New York State Department of Social Services Form, No. DSS-517 (Rev. 8/73)] prepared for the Aitchison's by the Rockland County Department of Social Services is annexed as Exhibit "A".
 - 3a. As of the date this action was commenced, the income of the Aitchinson's (including Mr. Aitchison) was allocated as follows under 18 N.Y.C.R.R. § 360.5(e):

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· ...

Mr. Aitchison's income totaled		\$ 533.89
Mr. Aitchison was allowed to retain a personal allowance for his maintenance needs in the nursing home of		(28.50)
After subtracting that personal allowance Mr. Aitchison has left for the support of his dependents and his medical expenses		505.39
		505135
Mrs. Aitchison and the two Children have income of	\$ 312.79	
As a family of three the income allowance for Mrs. Aitchison and the children is	333.00	
Mrs. Aitchison and the children have a deficit of	(20.21)	
Mr. Aitchi on is allowed to make up the deficit	20,21	(20.21)
The deficit of Mrs. Aitchison and the children is reduced to zero and they are allowed \$333.00	0.00	
Mr. Atichison has left for his medical expenses		\$ 485.18

3b. As of the date of this Stipulation, the income of the Aitchison's (including Mr. Aitchison) is allocated as follows under 18 N.Y.C.R. § 360.7(a):

Supplemental Stipulation of September 24, 1975 and Ord		\$611.11
Mr. Aitchison is allowed to retain a personal allowance for his maintenance needs in the nursing home of		(28.50)
After subtracting that personal allowance Mr. Aitchison has left for the support of his dependents and his medical expenses. As shown below, it is all to be used for his medical care since his dependents have income in		582.61
excess of the maintenance level	\$250.59	0.00
Mrs. Aitchison's income is Mrs. Aitchison's pro-rata share of the \$317.00 income allow- ance is one-half or	(158.50)	
Mrs. Aitchison has left for the support of Janice and for Mr. Aitchison's medical expenses	92.09	118.00
Janice's income is		110.00
Janice Aitchison's pro-rata share of the \$317.00 income allowance is also		(158.50)
Janice's deficit is		\$(40.50)
Mrs. Aitchison is allowed to con- tribute \$40.50 to bring Janice's income up to her pro-rata one- half share of the \$317.00 allow- ance and her deficit up to zero	(40.50)	40.50
Mrs. Aitchison has left for Mr. Aitchison's Medical expenses	51.59	
Mrs. Aitchison is to use her excess income for her husband's medical expenses reducing her income for her own maintenance to her pro-rata one-half share of the \$317.00 allowance and leaving her with a deficit of zero	(51.59)	

4. In New York, Medical Assistance is available to persons who receive public assistance ("PA") and to those who do not receive public assistance but who qualify under the medical assistance eligibility standards ("non-PA"). In appropriations abudgeting of departmental monies for medical assistance, no distinction is made between PA medical assistance recipients and

Supplemental Stipulation of Facts dated September 24, 1975 and Order

non-PA medical assistance recipients. The total medical assistance budget for the current fiscal year is \$3,065,972,000 (1/2 federal; 1/4 state; 1/4 local). If the plaintiffs are successful in this class action, the financial impact on the state medical assistance budget will be in excess of \$10,000.

5a. Effective July 1, 1975 through September 30, 1975, the exempt annual net income (by family size) of medical assistance recipients under NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8) has been and continues to be:

One Two Three Four Five Six Seven \$2,700 3,800 4,000 5,000 5,700 6,400 7,200

The income exemptions are increased by \$600 annually for each family member in excess of seven.

5b. Effective October 1, 1975, the exempt annual net income (by family size) of medical assistance recipients under NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8) will be:

One Two Three Four Five Six Seven \$2,700 3,800 4,200 5,000 5,800 6,500 7,400

The income excemptions shall increase by \$700 annually for each family member inexcess of seven.

The amounts specified for family sizes of one and two are the same as the SSI benefits payments provided for those family sizes living alone rounded to the next highest \$100 on an annual basis.* Defendants contend that the SSI benefit payments were selected under 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1)(ii)(B) because they are higher than the averaged AFDC grants for one and two person families. Defendants further contend that the amounts specified for family sizes of three or more are the basic AFDC grants for families of those sizes plus the averaged and rounded shelter allowances paid to such families. In the event that the issue is

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^{*} Although some SSI recipient individuals and couples living alc receive more than the SSI benefit payment (i.e. those grandfather into the SSI program pursuant to Pub. L. 93-66 Sec. 212), no such individuals or couples receive less except where they have other income.

whener, plaintiffs wentend that the assumeth specified do not retresent an accurate average the relevant AFDC grants and allowances. The parties are prepared to proceed with discovery and trial of that issue should it become necessary.

6. The following portion of aragraph "3c" of Stipulation signed September 9, 1975 is withdrawn:

the territory and the second

"On or about October 3, 1973, the Aitchisons' received \$2,579.20 (social security lump sum disability payment) which was turned over to Mrs. Aitchison's brother in satisfaction of a previously incurred debt."

The following paragraph is substituted in its place:

"On or about October 3, 1973, the Aitchisons' received \$2,579.20 (social security lump sum disability payment) which was turned over to Mrs. Aitchison's brother. Plaintiffs contend that the transfer was made in satisfaction of a previously incurred debt. Defendants contend that there is no evidence to support the transfer for that purpose. Notwithstanding the purpose of the transfer, plaintiffs contend that the lump payment is immaterial to the out-

Dated: New York, New York September 24, 1975

DOUGLAS J GOOD Legal Aid Society of Rockland

County, Inc., Attorney for Plaintiffs

RENE W. REIXACH Greater Up-State law Project Monroe County Legal Assistance Corporation 80 West Main Street Rochester, New York 14614

DIANA W. RIVET County Attorney for Rockland County

By JOHN B. FRANKLIN Assistant County Attorney Attorney for County Defendants

LOUIS J. LEFKOWITZ Attorney General of the State of New York

CRDERED: 10-8-75

JUDITH A. GORDON

Attorney for State Respondents

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OMBUTATION OF AMOUNT TO BE PAID FOR COST SHARING

Complete Bases A, B and C of Section D. The amount in Box C is the amount the client is to pay before becoming eligible

Exhibit A to Supplemental Stipulation

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Exhibit "A" P. 2

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-vs-

ABE LAVINE, et al.,

Defendants.

75 Civ. 1224 MEF

SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF MONROE) ss:

RENE H. REIXACH, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am a member of the Bar of this Court and one of the attorneys for the plaintiffs herein. I make this affidavit to correct and update information pertaining to which of the 58 social services districts in New York (57 counties plus New York City) have public assistance allowances, including shelter, which are higher at any family size than the medical assistance income allowances challenged herein.
- 2. There have heretofore been submitted two analyses of this sort, one in the class action affidavits of James Reynolds and myself sworn to May 19, 1975, and my supplemental class action affidavit sworn to August 27, 1975. Pursuant to the stipulation of counsel dated September 9, 1975, it has now been agreed that those prior calculations were incorrect except as to eighteen (18) counties, namely Albany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chenango,

Clinton, Dutchess, Erie, Essex, Monroe, Niagara, Oneida, Orange, Rockland, Steuben, Suffolk, Tompkins, Ulster and Wayne Counties (Stipulation dated September 9, 1975, ¶3(a)). Accordingly, the analyses heretofore made have been redone.

3. As was the case with the prior analyses, to which the Court is referred for the methodology thereof, I have analyzed the total public assistance allowances, by county, family size and housing arrangements (heat included in rent or not) and compared them with the challenged medical assistance allowances. Since the motions now pending before the Court will not be finally submitted until October 1, 1975, I have based these analyses on the increased medical assistance allowances which will be effective on October 1, 1975, pursuant to Chs. 480 and 481 of the 1975 New York Session Laws as well as on the rent schedules which the defendant State Commissioner Stephen Berger has promulgated to be effective October 1, 1975 (see N.Y. Times, Sept. 8, 1975). Copies of those rent schedules are annexed as exhibits hereto, and are the same as those annexed to my supplemental class action affidavit of August 27, 1975. The amended medical assistance income allowances used for these calculations are as follows:

Family size 1 2 3 5 7 8 Annual income \$2700 3800 4200 5000 5800 6500 7400 8100 Monthly income 225 317 350 417 483 542 617 675

- 4. Under the new rent schedu's the disc epancies which once existed between rent maximums for dwellings with heat included in the rent and those with heat paid separately will be eliminated. Still, however, based on family size, there will exist three categories of counties, those in which the medical assistance allowances always exceed the maximum public assistance allowance, those where the medical assistance allowance exceeds the public assistance maximum at some family sizes, and those where the medical assistance never exceeds the public assistance maximum.
- tance allowance always exceeds the public assistance allowance, there are 20 counties, namely Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Clinton, Delaware, Essex, Fulton, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis, Livingston, Montgomery, Niagara, Orleans, Rensselaer, Tioga, Warren, Washington, Wyoming, and Yates. Persons residing in those counties will be outside the class since they cannot be allowed a medical assistance income allowance which is below the applicable public assistance allowance.
- 6. In the second category, where the medical assistance allowance can exceed the public assistance allowance at some family sizes, there are 29 counties, namely Albany, Allegany, Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Columbia, Cortland, Dutchess, Erie, Franklin, Genesee, Greene, Madison, Monroe, Oneida, Onondaga, Ontario, Oswego, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady,

Schoharie, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins, Ulster and Wayne. In eight (8) of those counties, namely Broome, Cortland, Dutchess, Monroe, Onondaga, Saratoga, Tompkins and Ulster, the problem raised herein can exist at all family sizes except one and two person families; in Albany County the problem can exist at all family sizes except seven or eight. In those nine (9) counties the problem thus affects most family sizes and persons in such families could be in the class. In another ten (10) counties, on the other hand, the problem can exist at only one or two family sizes and for most people the medical assistance allowances exceed the public assistance maxina so they could not be in the class. Those ten counties whose residents largely must be outside the class are allegany, Chemung, Chenango, Franklin, Greene, Oneida, Oswego, St. Lawrence, Schenectady, and Seneca.

- 7. In another eight (8) counties, plus all of New York City, the problem can exist, and hence class membership can exist, at all family sizes. In addition to New York City the problem can occur at all family sizes in Herkimer, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan and Westchester Counties (essentially suburban New York City).
- 8. Also annexed hereto is the most recently published tabulation of numbers of non-public assistance recipients of medical assistance, contained in "Social Statistic." published by the New York State Department of Social Services, volume 37, no. 5 for May, 1975, issued September 8, 1975. It shows that there were in May, 1975, 197,937 such persons in New York State. In New

York City and the eight counties where class membership can occur at all levels of family size there were 106,407 recipients, or 53.76% of the statewide total; in the twenty (20) counties where the problem can never arise, however, there were only 22,172 recipients, a mere 11.20% of the statewide total.

- 9. The size of the gap in the counties where the problem herein can occur at all family sizes is great. The maximum discrepancy exists for a family of eight in Westchester County, where the gap is \$246.00 per month; in Rockland County, where the plaintiffs reside, the eight person gap is \$234.00 per month. The gap is also large at other family sizes. For example, in Nassau, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester Counties it exceeds \$100.00 per month for all family sizes of three or more. The existence of such sizeable differentials between the public assistance and medical assistance schedules in such populous areas demonstrates that this problem indeed affects a sizeable class.
- 10. The existence of this three tiered system also demonstrates that the present schedules violate equal protection, for medical assistance recipients are allowed to live above or below the public assistance level sclely on the basis of their county of residence, family size, and shelter costs.

WHEREFORE, deponent respectfully prays that the plaintiffs' motions be granted and the defendant's be denied.

RENE H. REIXACH

Sworn to before me this

24th day of september, 1975.

K. WADE EATON

Notary Public in the State of New York

MONROE COUNTY, N. Y.

Commission Expires March 30, 197 C

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Maximum monthly shelter allowances (proposed to take effect October 1, 1975), Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of September 24

LOCAL ATTICS	MAKENEM	NA IONALE SELES ALLONOUSES	WITHOUT	HEAT		
		By Fa	mily Size	đ		

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Maximum monthly shelter allowances (proposed to take effect October 1, 1975), Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of September 24

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Alban COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	195	רו	143	143	-110 131
2	151	20		168	133 167
3	153	ş.	179	143	133 150
4	153	34	127	180	159 15 ⁻ 9
5	153	36	189	181	157 165
6	158	3.8	191	185	-165 17:!
7	153	. 4o	(192)	185	182 199
8	1.53	42	(195)	189	182 207

Allegary COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	85	25	(110)	(10)	-118 . 131
2	106	35	(141)	(41)	133 167
3	106	45	151	151	150
4	(06	5 4	162	162	-159 159
5.	106	59	(165)?	(65)?	157 165
6	106	6)	(167)	(167)	165 174
7	103	65	(7)	(17)	182 · 199
8	105	. 69	17.5	(175)	207

Brooms COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	= Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	104-	25	(129)	(129)	131
2	130	35	(155)	(165)	167
3	136	45	181	181	133 150
4	136	5 %	192	192	159 159
5	. 136	59	195	195	157 165
6	. 136	61	197	197	165
7	150	65	215	2 1.5	182
8	150	49	219	219	182 207

Cattorangus COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	MA PA
1	67	25	92	92)	131
2	84	35	(19)	10	-133 167
3	93	45	(138)	(38)	150
4	93	56	(49)	(149)	159
¹ 5 .	93	59	(52)	(152)	165
6	93	61	(154)	(154)	174
7	93	65	(58)	(158)	182
8	93	69	162	162	. 207

COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	75	22	97)	97)	131
2	94.	31	(25)	125	-133 67
6 3	94:	40	(134)	(34)	150
4	100	50	(150)	(50)	159
5	106	5.3	(159)	(159)	165 165
6	114	56	(170)	(170)	174
7	114	40	(174)	(174)	199
8	120	43	183	183	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

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Chartengua COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	72	\ 3	(FS)	(85)	131
2	90	/ 3	03	(03)	133 167
3	90	14	(104)	(104)	133 150
4 .	916	a ı	(117)	(1)7)	159 159
5	96	22	(118)	(18)	157 65
6	101	24	(35)	(125)	165
7	107	25	(122)	132	182 199
8	157	26	(83)	183	182 207

Chemine COUNTY

N . Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	79	2 2	(101)	(0)	-11#
2	99	31	(130)	(136)	-133 167
3	104	40	(144)	(144)	150
4	107	50	(157)	(157)	-159 15 9
5	115	53	168	168	165
6	129	54	185	185	174
7	137	60	(197)	197	-182 199
8	137	63	(200)	200 -	207

Chennago COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Pent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mc.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	66	2.5	(q)	90	13/
2	83	3.5	(118)	(118)	133 - 167
3	98	45	(143)	(143)	133 150
4	9:	56	(54)	(154)	. 159 159
5	108	59	167	167	165
6	10%	61	(169)	(169)	165
7	108	6.5	(13)	(173)	182
8	181	69	(190)	(190)	207

Clinton COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	57	2.5	82	82	131
2	71:	35	(106)	106	133 167
3	78	45	(123)	(123)	133 150
4	53	56	144	(144)	159 159
5	42	59	(151)	(151)	165 165
6	92 .	61	(153)	(153)	165 174
7	93 .	6.5	(158)	158)	199
8	93	69		162	207

Charts for local social services districts, Exhibit to

Columbia COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	104	22	(26)	(126)	13/
2	130	31	(161)	(161)	133 167
3	130	40	170	170	150
4	132	50	182	185	159 159
5	132	23	185	185	165
6	132	51	188	1 &&	165 174
7	132	60	(92)	(192)	199
● 8	132	63	(95)	195 -	207

Cottons COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Seltor	Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1 -	96	2.5	(21)	(12)	131
2	120	35	(155)	· (35)	133 167
3	120	45	165	165	133 150
4	140	56	196	196	159 159
5	151	59	210	210	165
6	155	61	216	216	165 174
7	155	4,5	220	220	199
8	161	69	530.	230 -	207

Delware COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	Re t w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	76	2,5	(10)	(0)	131
2	q 5	35	(30)	(30)	167
3	97	45	(43)	(142)	150
4	97	56	(153)	(153)	159 159
5	۹٦	59	(156)	(150)	-157 165
6	97	۵١	(158)	(158)	165 174
7	97	65	(62)	(162)	199
8	102	69	(7)	(17) -	207

Dutchess COUNTY

No	. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
	1	109	4 2	(3)?	(131)?	131
_	2	136	31	(167)?	(167)?	133
6	3	143	40	183	183	133 150
	4	145	50	195	195	- 159 159
	5	155	5.3	208	208	165 165
	6	155	56	211	211	174
	7	155 '	60	215	215	182
•	8	153	63	218	218	207

Ecie COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	108	\3	(2)	(12)	131
2	135	. 18	(153)	(15.3)	133 167
3	135	.	159	159	133 150
4	135	29	164	164	159 159
5	\37	3 2	169	169	165
6	\37	33	(170)	170	165
7	137	35	(172)	(172)	199
8	137	34	(173)	(173)	207

Essex COUNTY

No.	Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
	1	72	30	102	(O2)	131
_	2	90	43	(33)	(133)	167
	3	90	52	(142)	(142)	150
	4	90	69	(59?	(159)?	159 159
	5	90	٦3	(163)	(163)	165
	6	90	74	(166)	(166)	165 174
	7	90	77		(6)	182
•	8	91	86	(17)	17)-	207

Franklin COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	66	30	(96)	96	131_
2	83	43	(126)	(126)	133 167
3	83	52	(135)	(35)	150
4	91	69	160	160	159- 159
5	91	73	(164)	(164)	165
6	91	76	(167)	(167)	165
7 .	91	77	(168)	(168)	182
8	91	36	177	(II)-	207

Fulton COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	80	25	105	(105)	-114
2	100	35	(135)	(135)	133 167
3	100	4 <i>5</i>	145	(45)	133
7	100	54	(36)	156	159 159
5	100	59	(159)	(159)	- 157- 165
6	100	61	(161)	(161)	165 174
7	100	65	1 (165)	(165)	199
8	100	69	(169)	(169)	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

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Geneses COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	93	22	(115)	(115)	-114
2	116	31	(147)	[47]	167
3	116	40	156	156	150
4	116	50	166	166	159 159
5	116	5.3	169	169	165
6	116	56	(172)	172	174
7	n.	40	(176)	176	199
8	171	63	234	234 -	207

Gerand COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	85	2.2	(197)	(107)	131
2	106	31	(37)	(137)	-133 167
3	10%	40	148	(148)	133 150
4	110	50	160	160	159
5	110	53	(63)	163	165
6	110	56	(111)	165	165 174
7	116	60	(170)	(170)	199
8	113	c 3	176	176	207

Hamilton COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	56	3 0	(36)	79	131
2	٦٥	43	(13)	(04)	133 167
3	85	52	(37)	(37)	150
4	85	69	(154)	(154)	159
5	89	73	(162)	(146)	157
6	97	76	(173)	(157)	165 174
7	103	רר	(30)	(164)	199
8	113	86	199	(180) -	207

Herkimer COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1			1		-118-
	118	2 5	143	143	/3/
2					133
	147	3 5	185	182	167
3					133-
	147	45	192	192	150
4	147	-,	203	202	159
	141		403	203	
5	147	59	206	206	165
6	1				165
	147	61	208	208	174
7	8				182
	147	65	212	212	199
8					182
	147	69	216	216	207

Jefferson COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
. 1	56	25	(3)	<u> </u>	-118' (3/
2	70	35	(05)	(05)	133 167
3	78	45	(23)	(123)	150
4	79	56	(135)	135	159 159
5	89	59	(1-18)	148	165
6	۹٦	61	(154)	158	174
7	103	6.5	(63)	(168)	199
8	113	69	(12)	182	207

Lewis COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Puel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	6 8	25	93	93)	131
2	85	35	(120)	(120)	133- 167
3	0,	45	(131)	(131)	133
4	90	56	(146)	(146)	159 159
5	93	59	(52)	(152)	157 165
6	95	61	15%	(156)	165 174
7	110	65	(175)	(175)	199
8	111	69	(50)	180 -	207

L'imston COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	74	22	96	(96)	-116 131
2	93	31	124	(124)	133 167
3	93	40	133	(33)	150
. 4	93	50	143	143	159 159
5	93	53	146	(146)	165
6	93	56	(149)	149	165 174
7	93	60	(153)	(153)	182 199
8	93	63	156	(156)	182 207

Madison COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	102	2.5	(127)	127	13/
2	197	35	(162)	(162)	-133 167
3	12	45	172	172	150
4	רפו	56	183	183	159 159
5	127	.59	186	186	165
6	127	61	188	188	165 174
7	127	65	(192)	(192)	182 199
8	127	69	(196)	(96)	182 207

Manine COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	MA-PA
1	115	. 16	(3)?	(3)?	131
2	144	21	(165)	(14.5)	133 167
3	152	29	181	181	133 150
4	156	36	192	192	159 159
5	157	3%	195	195	157 165
6	165	39	204	204	165 174
7	165	43	208	208	182 199
8	1,76	45	. 221.	·	207

Monte sarry COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	74	5.5	(99)	(9)	131
2	92	35	(27)	(127)	-133 167
3	92	45	(131)	(137)	133
. 4	92	56	(148)	(148)	159 159
5	94	59	(153)	(153)	-157 165
6	94	61	(155)	(155)	165 174
7	94	6.5	(159)	(159)	182
8	127	69	196	196	207

Nassau COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) She.	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1					-114
	141	19	160	160	131
2	176	27	203	203	133 167
3	225	33	258	258	133 150
4	251	42	293	293	159 159
5	271	45	316	316	157 165
6	285	47	332	33 %	165 74
7	333	50	383	383	182 197
8	3 5 5	53	408	408	182 207

Wemyorkcity COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	12-8			\ \	-114-
2	160	: 16	144	183	131 133 167
3	169	2.5	194	194	133
4	186	32	218	218	159 159
5	189	37	226	226	157 165
6	209	40	249	249	165 174
7	241	42	3 0 3	303	182 199
8	273	44	317	317	182 207

Wingara COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	88	13	(0)	(101)	- 11#
2	110	16	(135)	(126)	133 167
3	114	21	(135)	(135)	133 150
	-115	26	[14]	(41)	159 159
5	124	29	(153)	(153)	165
	126	29	(155)	(155)	165 174
7	165	32	(197)	(197)	182 199
8	165	34	(199)	199	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

A

Oncida COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	74	25	(99)	9	13/
2	93	35	(28)	(128)	133 167
3	100	45	(145)	(145)	133 150
4	101	56	(157)	(157)	159 159
5	107	59	166	166	165
6	//8	61	179	179	165 174
7	/30	65	(195)	(95)	182 199
8	130	69	199	(199) -	1 02 207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

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Onondaga COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	102	22	(124)	(134)	131
2	127	31	(158)	(158)	133 167
3	127	40	167	167	150
4 -	127	50	\177	177	159
5	140	53	193	193	157 165
6	159	2.6	215	215	165 174
7	1.59	60	219	219	182 199
8	1.60	63	223	223	207

Ontario COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	102	22	124	(124)	131
2	128	31	159	159	-133 167
3	132	410	172	172	133
4 .	132	50	182	182	-159 159
5	132	53	1 %5	185	157 165
6	143	56	199	199	165 174
7	143	60	203	203	182
8	143	63	206	206) -	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

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Orange COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.) -	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1			`	-	-114
	119	22	141	141	131
2	149	31	(80	180	167
3	166	LIO	206	206	150
4	167	50	217	217	159 159
5	167		220	220	165
6	176	56	232	232	165
7	176	60	236	236	182
8	176	43	239	239	182 207

Orleans COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1 .		52	(100)	(100)	-118 131
2	98	31	(129)	(129)	1 33 167
3	lot	40	(14)	(H)	150
4	101	50	(151)	(151)	159 159
5	101	53	(154)	154)	165
6	101	56	(157)	(157)	174
7	115	60	(175)	(175)	199
8	115	63	(178)	178 -	207

OSWESO COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	74	22	90	96)	131
2	93	31	(124)	(124)	133 167
3	105	40	(145)	(145)	133 150
14	105	50	(155)	(155)	159 159
5	115	23	168	168	157 165
6	120	5%	176	176	- 165 -174
7	125	60	(185)	185	182 199
8	125	63	188	188 -	207

Otsees COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	93	25	(118)	(118)	-114
2	116	35	(151)	(151)	133 167
3	116	45	161	161	150
4	116	56	172	172	159 159
5	116	59	וחב	175	165
6	116	61	ורו	177	165 174
7	116	65	(1)	(181)	199
8	125	69	(194)	194) -	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

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Patnam COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.) -	(3) Shelter	Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	113	2 2	135	135	131
2	141	31	172	172	133 167
3	165	40	205	205	150
4	165	50	215	215	159 159
5	165	53	218	218	157 165
6	208	SL	264	264	165 174
7.	20%	40		268	182 199
8	209	63	272	572	207

Rensselaer COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1 .	78.2	\7	99	99	131
2	103	ao	(22)	(22)	133 167
3	102	56	(23)	(128)	133
4	102	34	(136)	(36)	159
	102	36	(38)	(138)	157 165
6	102	38	(140)	140	165 174
7	102	40	(142)	142	182 199
8	121	42	(163)	163	182 207

Rockland COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	154		173	173	131
2	193	27	220	220	167
3	228	<u>د د</u>	261	261	150
4	242	42	284	284	159
5	285	45	330	330	165
6	317	47	364	2 64	174
7	356	50	406	406	199
8	388	53	441	441 -	207

5 + . Lawrance COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	= (3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	81	O 5	(106)	(106)	13/
2	101	35	(134)	(136)	-133 167
3	102	45	(147)	(147)	-133 150
4	109	54	165	165	- 159 159
5	109	59	168	168	-157 165
6	110	61	(171)	(171)	-165 174
7	110	65	(175)	(175)	-182 199
8	110	69	(179)	(179)	207

Sac togo COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	100	25	(125)	(125)	131
2	(25	35	(10)	(160)	-133 167
3	134	45	179	١٦٩	133 150
. 4	141	56	147	197	159 159
5	148	5 %	201	207	165 165
6	18	41	204	209	-165 174
7	148	6.5	213	à13	-182 199
8	148	69	217	217	207

Schonectady COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	89	17	(106)	(106)	-114
2	111	20		[3]	-133 167
3	113	26	(134)	(139)	-133 150
4	114	34	(148)	148	159 159
5	125	36		(161)	-157 [65]
6	146	38	184	184	-165 174
7	الإز	40	(186)	(186)	-182 199
8	155	42	197	(197)	182 207

Schobocie COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	93	2.5	(118)	(18)	-119
2	. 116	35	(151)	(151)	-133 167
3	116	45	161	161	-133 150
4	116	.56	172	172	-159 159
5	116	59	175	175	-157- 165
6	116	(1	ודו	177	165
7	116	65	(181)	(181)	182
8	125	69	(194)	194) -	182 207

Schwier COUNTY

No	. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
	1	102	a a	(124)	(124)	131
0	2	137	31	(158)	(28)	-133 167
_	3	187	40	167	167	150
_	4	197	50	177	171	159 159
_	5	127	.53	180	182	157 165
	6	127	56	1 83	183	165 174
	7	٦٦	60	(187)	(187)	182
_	8	127	(3	190	190	207

Senece COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	= (3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1					-119-
	81	21	(102)	(102)	131
2	101	3 ((32)	(132)	-133 167
3	101	40	(141)	(141)	-133 150
4	101	30	(151)	(151)	159 159
5	106	53	(159)	(159)	157 165
6	106	21	(162)	(162)	165 174
7	107	60	167	(167)	182 199
8					182_
	\57	63	220	220	207

Steuber COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	76	9. 5	(0)	(ii)	131
2	95	35	(39)	130	-133 167
3	115	45	160	160	133 150
4	115	56	יזו	171	159 159
5	11.5	59	174	174	165
6	116	61	וחק	177	174
7	116	(5	(181)	(181)	-182 199
8	132	69	201	201	207

Suffolk COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	179	19	198	198	-11, -
2	224	27	251	251	133 167
3	244	33	277	277	150
4	a 63	42	305	305	159 159
5	275	45	320	320	165
6	282	47	3 29	329	174
7	283	50	3 33	333	182
8	313	53	366	366	182 207

Sullivar COUNTY

No	. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
	1			`		-11#
_		115	A 5	140	140	131
	2					-133
0		194	35	179	179	167
_	3	161	45	204	206	150
	4	169	56	92.5	225	- 159
_	5	183	39	242	242	-157 /65
	6	204	61	2 4 5	265	-165 174
_	7	3 04 ·	65	269	269	199
	8	000				182
_		204	69	273	273	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

-198 - .

Toga COUNTY

No.	Persons	Rent W/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
	1	66	2.5	91)	91)	13/
_	2	's D	35	(117)	(112)	133 167
	3	95	45	140	(140)	133
	4	95	5 %	(151)	(151)	159
	5	9.5	59	154	(154)	-157- 165
	6	9.5	۲۱	(156)	(156)	174
	7	99	ر. د 5	(14)	(164)	199
•	8	99	69	(168)	(168)	207

Tompkins COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	104	- 22	(126)	(125)	-114- /3/
2	130	31	(161)	(161)	133 167
3	\31	40	177	\77	150
4	1411	50	191	191	159 159
5	196	5.3	199	(9.1	16-5
6	163	56	219	219	174
7	163	60	223	223	199
8	184	63	247	247	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5 -280

8

Ulstec COUNTY

No. Persons	Rent w/o heat +	Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	105	22	(127)	(121)	131
2	131	3)	(162)	162	167
3	135	40	175	175	133
4	140	50	190	190	159
5	142	53	195	195	165
6	158	56	214	214	175 174
7	158	60	218	318	199
8	159	43	222	222	207

Warren COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1					-114-
	78	2.5	(103)	(103)	/3/
2	97	35	(132)	(132)	167
3	98	45	143	(143)	150
4	100	56	(156)	(15%)	159
5	100	59	(159)	159	165
б	100	٤١	(6)	(16)	174
7	110	65	(175)	(125)	182
8	'''	69	(180)	(180)	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

-202 -

Westington COUNTY

No. F	Persons	Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
- :		80	7.7	(102)	(102)	13/
	· -	100	3.	(131)	(3)	167
	3	1012	40	(140)	(140)	150
- 1	•	100	50	(150)	(150)	159 159
	5	los	53	(158)	(158)	16.5
, 6	5	106	56	(162)	(162)	174
1	'	106	60	(160)	(166)	182
•	3	114	(3	(17)	(17)	207

Circle all cases where col. 3 or col. 4 is less than col. 5

-203-

WAYNE COUNTY

No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1	93	22	(115)	(115)	-114 /3/
2	116	31	(147)	(147)	147
3	116	40	156	156	150
4	\14	20	166	166 .	159 15-03
5	116	5.3	169	169	165
6	116	56	(172)	(172)	165
7	116	60	(176)	(176)	182
8	114	63	(179)	(79)	207

Westernester COUNTY

No. Pe	rsons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1				18.		114
		148	19	1:67	167	131
2						133
<u> </u>		185	רג	212	212	167
3						133
		224	33	2.59	259	150
4			•			159
		232	42	274	274	159
5						157
		287	45	332	332	165
6						165
		287	47	334	334	174
7			50			182
		348	30	398	398	199
8						182
		400	53	453	453	207

Wyaming COUNTY

	No. Persons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.)	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
	1	78	25	(103)	(103)	-114 /3/
_	2	97	35	(132)	(132)	-133- 167
	3	98	45	(143)	(143)	133 150
	4	98	51,	(154)	(154)	159 159
	5	106	59	(165)?	(165)?	157
	6	106	61	(167)		165 174
	7	110	65	(175)	(175)	182
	8	111	69	(180)	(180)	182 207

Yates COUNTY

No. Per	sons	(1) Rent w/o heat +	(2) Fuel (12 mo.) =	(3) Shelter	(4) Rent w/heat	(5) MA-PA
1		60	22	(82)	(82)	13/
2		75	31	(106)	106	167
3		80	40	(120)	120)	133
4		80	50	(130)	(130)	-159 - /59
5		80	2.3	(133)	(133)	165
6		80	5 ((136)	(134)	165
7		80	60	(140)	(140)	199
8		80	63	(143)	(143) -	207

Table Showing Number of Medical Assistance Recipients and Expenditures in New York State. Exhibit to Reixach affidavit of September 24.

Table 5
MEDICAL PRISTAINS
Beneficiaries, expensitures and average payment, by social services district

May 1975

Social services district		Beneficiaries		Medical	
	Total	Subsistence and Medical	Medical Only	expenditures	Average payment per benaficiary
New York State	1,215,617	1,017,682	197,937	\$21,6,619,800	\$202_63
New York Sity	801,529	731,589	69,940	173,150,977	216,00
Rest of State	413,990	295,79)	127,997	73,468,823	177.47
Large Urtan Counties	229,835	1 120.00			-
Erie	50,077	170,413	58,423	41,695,108	182.21
Morzoe	25,345	20,052	18,290	7,233,389	144-45
Nassau	33,933	23,995	0,273	4,688,980	177.98
Chandigs	24,725	17,053	9,938 7,672	11,061,640	293.76
Suffalie	39,553	32,315	7,238	4,033,537 7,127,101	163.14
Westchester	49,153	40,211	8,942	7,550,461	150.19
ther Courties	185,154	115,580	69,574	21 000 014	
Albery	11,478	8,142	3,336	31,773,715	171.61
grace vire 2 c.f.	2,425	1,569	857	287, 229	234.14
Cattareugus	8,836	5,611	3,025	1,393,080	157.66
Cayrige	3,586	2,506	1,631	535,019	129.33
Chartella	5,730	2,713 4,192	1,173	587.074	151.07
Cheming	5,053	3,658	1,538	1,107,069	193.21
Cherargo	5,053 2,748	1,520	1,405	792,061	156.44
Clinton	4,498	1,259	3,229	322,397 460,937	117.32
Cortland	1,855	999	856	370,373	102.43
Delavare	2,839	1,923	966	294, 268	101.86
Dutchess	4,933	965 3,273	656	282,743	174.43
Issex	2,475	1,498	1,660	1,130,824	229.24
Franklin	3,577	2,193	1,384	355,738	143.73
Fulton Genesee	2,546	1.397	1,159	458,629 461,896	123.22 181.42
Greene	1,707	1,187	520	307,064	179.89
Familten	1,540	998	54.2	333,967	220.11
Fericliner	2,453	1,170	70	21,407	139.01
Jefferson	4,976	3,149	1,283	347,323	11.59
Leris	991	435	1,827	798,171	160.40
Livingston	1,702	1,176	526	168,746	170.28
Madison	2,454	1.582	872	280,867 369,436	165.02
Montgomery Klagara	1,717	1,108	609	372,283	150.54
Omeida	5,035	3,641	1,394	1,397,672	277.59
Ontaria	11,836	8,126	3,710	1,647,477	139.19
Crange	7,533	819 4,474	1,628	550,382	224.92
Orteans	2,054	1,192	3,059	1,513,676	200.94
QaveSo	4,473	3,212	1,261	255,856	124.56
Otseas Potras	2,358	1,430	928	570,183 421 048	127.47
Pensselser	1,238	710	578	270 512	173.56 210.26
Pocklard	5,850 8,596	3,723	2,127	970,918	165.97
St. Lawrence	6,355	4,290	4,316	2,131,521	24.7.97
Saretoge	3,451	1,330	2,336	849,560	133.68
Schenectady	5,006	3,043	1,963	611,312	177.14
Schoharie Schuyler	862	519	343	1,356,556	270.99
Seresa	739	466	323	145,184	134_01
Steuben	1,094	756	328	190,534	174-16
Sallivan	3,122	2,916 2,059	1,423	513,599	118.37
Tiogs	1,692	920	1,063	550,151	176.22
Torpides	3,029	2,132	772	238,211	140.79
Aster I.	8,013	5,513	2,505	390,418	128.94
eshiraton	2,693	. 1,572	1,121	316,717	155.63
layre	2,195	1,163	1,032	341,590	155.62
youing.	1,181	2,001 552	787 629	429,193 145,309	153.94
ates					123.04

Affidavit of Eleanor A. Sochocki, NYSDSS Program Specialist, sworn to October 3, 1975, in opposition to class action determination. UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK MARION AITCHISON, et al., Plaintiffs. 75 Civ. 1224 MEF -vs-AFFIDAVIT ABE LAVINE, et al., Defendants. OCT 8 STATE OF NEW YORK) ss: COUNTY OF ALBANY) ELEANOR A. SOCHOCKI, being duly sworn, deposes and says: 1. I am employed by the New York State Department of Social Services, 1450 Western Avenue, Albany, New York, in the position of Principal Social Services Frogram Specialist, Division of Income Maintenance. This affidavit is prepared in opposition to plaintiff's motion for class action status in the above captioned case. 2. Rene H. Reixach's Supplemental Affadivit for plaintiff, dated September 24, 1975, contains two shelter allowance schedules and 58 charts based in part on those shelter allowance schedules. These schedules are not accurate for one person households. The schedules used by itr. Reixach were the proposed shelter allowance schedules at one time, but never went into effect. The schedules that actually went into effect on October 1, 1975 are attached hereto as Exhibit A. In all districts the actual shelter allowance for one person households exceeds the figures used by Mr. Reixach. It follows that all calculations based on the incorrect schedules are also incorrect. Sworn to before me this 3-4 day of October, 1975 NOTARY PUBLIC THOMAS O. MURRAY Protect Problem in the State of Rew York
Qualified in Omitta County
My Commission Expired Mail, 20, 1976

1975

LOCAL AGENCY MAXIMUM MONTHLY SHELVER ALLOWANCES WITH DEAT

By Family Size

		1	2	3	1,	5	6	'7	6.+
		1							
Albany		143	171	179	187	189	191	193	195
Allegany		113	141	151	162	165	167	171	175
Brooms		136	. 165	-181	192	195	197	215	219
Cattoraugus		94	119	138	149	152	154	158	162
Cayuga		100	125	134	150	159	170	174	183
Chautauqua		83	105	111	122	125	130	139	191
Chemung		106	130	144	157	168	185	197	200
Chanango		93	113	143	154	167	169	173	190
Clinton		83	105	123	144	151	153	153	162
Columbia		130	161	170	182	125	188	192	195
Cortland		127	155	165	196	210	216	220	230
Delaware	į	103	130	142	153	156	158	162	171
Dutchess	. !	135	167	183	195	203	211	215	218
Eric	į	126	153	159	164	169	170	172	173
Essex	1	104	133	142	159	163	166	167	177
Franklin		101	126	135	160	164	167	168	177
Fulton	. !	110	135	145	155	159	161	165	169
Ganasiee	1.	119	11,7	155	166	169	172	176	2314
. Greene	1.	110	137	148	160	163	166	170	176
Hamilton	:	86	113	137	154	162	173	180	199
Herlaimer		147	182	192	203	205	208	212	216
Jefferson	· '.	. 81	105	123	135	148	158	168	182
Lewis		95	. 120	131	146	152	156	175 .	180
Livingston		99	124	133	143	145	149	153	156
Madison		130	162	172	183	185	163	192	195
Monroe		136	165	181	192	195	204	208	221
Montgomery		101	127	137	11,8	153	155	159	196
Nassau		169	203	258	293	316	332	383	408
New York City		152	183	194	218	226	24.9	303	317
Niagara		104	126	135	141	153	155	197	199
Oncida		101	128	145	157.	166	179	195	199
Onondaga		128	153	167	177	193	215	219	223
Ontario		128	159	172	182	185	199	203	205
Orange		149	180	206	217	220	232	236	239
Orleans		105	129	141	151	154	157	175	178
Oswego		101	124	145	155.	168	176	185	188
Obsego		121	151 .	161	172	175	177	181	19/4
Putnam		140	172	205	215	218	264	268	272
Rensselaer		101	122	128	136	138	140	11,2	163
Rockland		. 183	220	261	284	330	364	1,05	4/41
St. Lawrence		108	136	147	165	168	171	175	179
Saratoga		129	160	179	197	207	207	213	217
· Schenectady		109	131	139	11.3	161	184	186	197
Schonarie		121	151	- 161	172	175	177	181	19/4
Schuyler		127	. 153	167	177	160	183	187	190

EXHIBIT A -210-

Maximum onthly shelter allowances, as promulgated October 1, 1975, Exhibit A to Sochocki affidavit

1975

Local Agency Maximum Monthly Shelter Allewances With Heat (Con't)

By Family Size

Seneca 108 132 111 151 157 157 151 174 177 181 Steuben 205 251 277 305 320 329 333 Suffolk 205 251 277 205 225 242 265 269	8+	7	6	5	I.	3	2	1	
Sullivan 92 117 140 151 154 156 164 Tioga 92 117 140 151 199 219 223 Tompkins 130 161 177 191 199 214 218 Ulster 107 132 143 156 159 161 175 Warren 107 131 140 150 158 162 166 Washington 107 131 140 150 158 162 166 Wayne 112 147 156 166 169 172 176 Wayne 113 144 212 259 274 332 334 398 Westchester 174 212 259 274 332 334 398 Westchester 107 132 143 154 165 167 175 Wyoming 86 106 120 130 133 136 140	177 179 453 180	181 333 269 164 223 218 175 166 176 398 175	177 329 265 155 219 214 161 162 172 334 167	174 320 242 154 199 195 159 159 169 332 165	171 305 225 151 191 190 156 150 166 274 154	160 277 205 140 177 175 143 140 156 259 143	130 251 179 117 161 162 132 131 147 212 132	104 205 145 92 130 131 107 107 118 174	Steuben Suffolk Suffolk Sullivan Tioga Tompkins Ulster Warren Washington Wayne Westchaster Viyoming

9/17/75

i L

1975

LOCAL AGENCY MAXIMUM MONTHLY SHELTER ALLOCANCES WITHOUT HEAT

By Family Size

		-5				1		
	1_	2	3	L.	5	6	7	1:3
Allegany Broome Catheranges Capage Charbange Charbange Charbange Charbange Charbange Charbange Colorina Colorina Contland Delaware Datchess Fric Essex Franklin Fulton Genesee Greene Hamilton Herkimer Jefferson Lewis Livingston Madison Monroe Montgemery	126 88 111 69 75 84 68 58 102 78 113 74 120 76 77 120 76	2 151 105 130 84 99 99 83 71 130 120 95 136 135 90 116 105 70 147 70 85 93 127 144 92	3 153 106 136 136 136 136 136 137 143 137 143 135 143 135 143 143 143 144 145 147 148 147 148 147 148 149 149 149 149 149 149 149 149	153 106 136 136 107 98 83 132 140 97 145 135 90 116 110 85 147 79 90 93 127 156 92	153 105 136 93 105 106 96 115 108 92 132 151 97 155 137 90 116 110 89 147 89 93 127 157 94	153 105 136 93 114 101 129 103 92 132 155 97 155 137 90 91 100 116 110 97 147 97 95 93 127 165 94	153 105 150 93 114 107 137 108 93 132 155 97 155 137 90 116 110 103 117 103 110 93 127 165 94	153 105 150 93 120 157 137 121 93 132 161 102 155 137 91 100 171 113 113 1147 113 111 93 127 176 127
Madi.son	105 120 76 150 136 91 76 106 106 127 83 79 96 118 84 164 83 104 92 96	127 144	127 152	127 156	127 157	127 165	127 165	127 176
	105	121	121	101	121	121	2,01	

Maximum monthly shelter allowances, as promulgated October 1, 1975, Exhibit A to Sochocki affidavit

1975

Iceal Agency Maximum Monthly Shelter Allowances Without Heat. (Con't)

By Family Size

		1.	2	3	16	5	6	7	-8
Saneca		85	101 .	101.	101	105	105	107	157
Stouban		79	95	115	115	11.5	116	116	132
Suffolk		185	224	211	263	275	282	283	313
Sallivan		120	144	161	169	183	204	204	204
Ticga		67	82	95	95	95	95		99
Templains		103	130	137	141	11,6	163	99 163	184
·Uluter		109	131	135	11:0	142	158	158	157
Warren		82	97	93	100	100	100	110	111
Washington		85	100	100	100	105	106	106	114
Mayme	•	96	116	116	116	116	116	116	116
Westchaster		155	185	226	232	287	287	348	400
Wyeming		82	97	98	93	106	105	110	111
Yates		64	75	80	80	80	80	80	80
							,	33	~

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

75 Civ. 1224 MEF

-vs-

STEPHEN BERGER, et al.,

Defendants.

SUPPLEMENTAL AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF MONROE) ss:

RENE H. REIXACH, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- l. I am a member of the Bar of this Court and one of the attorneys for the plaintiffs herein; I make this affidavit to further supplement my supplemental affidavit dated September 24, 1975 analyzing the scope of the discrepancy between the public assistance maximum allowances and the medical assistance allowances for the 58 social services districts in New York City.
- 2. On October 1, 1975, I received a copy of New York Department of Social Services administrative letters nos.

 75 ADM-98 and 98A, dated September 12, 1975 and September 18, 1975. Annexed hereto as Exhibits A-1 through A-4 are the rent schedules finally promulgated by the defendant Stephen Berger. For one person families the figures are in many counties slightly higher than they were in the rent schedule annexed to my September 24, 1975 supplemental affidavit, which was obtained from that defendant's

own submission to this Court in <u>Nero v. Lavine</u>, 75 Civ. 1024 (see Supplemental Class Action Affidavit dated August 27, 1975, ¶6). Additionally, those rent schedules were further modified by the increases shown in Administrative Letter 75 ADM-98A, a copy of which is annexed as Exhibit B.

- 3. Rather than again recomputing the charts for the 58 social services districts sich have heretofore been submitted three times, I have simply analyzed the effects of these increases to see if they change the categorization by county set forth in my prior supplemental affidavit. They do not, except to increase the class size.
- 4. In Broome County the \$129 maximum monthly shelter allowance for one person is now \$136, so that some one person families will now be class members if their shelter grant would be between \$131 and \$136. Likewise in Dutchess and Monroe Counties, where the old maximum of \$131 was just at the borderline of class eligibility the new \$136 figure will make certain one person families class members. In Ulster County the old \$127 maximum is now \$131, right at the borderline of class membership but single persons will be out of the class. Elsewhere, while the new schedules may affect the numbers of class members (only by increasing them), they do not affect the category in which the single person family falls. Even in the four counties enumerated the categorization of the county will stay the same; each is still one of the 29 where the medical assistance allowance can exceed the public assistance allowance at some family sizes.

- 5. While these schedules have obviously been in considerable flux, the submissions of the Commissioner, such as the most recent Affidavit of Eleanor A. Sochocki, sworn to October 3, 1975, have added little to clarifying the scope of the class by simply asserting that prior submissions are "incorrect." While the most up-to-date information is obviously in the hands of the Commissioner, we shall further attempt to correctly state the contours of the class by noting yet another relevant change, which the Commissioner has so far ignored. Insofar as there have been any further changes we leave them to the Commissioner to explicate in full along with their effect on the contours of the class, if any.
- 6. Based upon information received in conjunction with a state court case in which my office is participating (Ciulla v. Lavine (Sup. Ct. Monroe Co.)), copies of which are annexed as Exhibits C-1 through C-7, it appears that Commissioner Berger has created split fuel schedules, one for natural gas heat and the other for all other sources of heat. This change has resulted in an increase in the fuel allowance for non-gas users in seven counties, namely Albany, Chautauqua, Erie, Monroe, Niagara, Rensselaer, and Schenectady.*

^{*} In the course of my review of these schedules it also came to my attention that the \$21 fuel allowance shown in prior affidavits for Seneca County single person families should be \$22; that does not result in any material change in that county.

7. The effects of these increases are to further increase the scope of the class. In Albany County the increases are sufficient to bring some persons in families of 7 or 8 who heat with gas into the class; previously the maximum rent allowance plus fuel allowance was not high enough for them to be class members. In Monroe County 1 and 2 person families can likewise be in the class after the increase. Those two counties thus move from the category of twenty-nine (29) counties where class membership could exist at only some family sizes to those where it can exist at all family sizes, so that the latter category is expanded to include ten (10) counties plus New York City. Niagara County, in turn, moves from the category of counties where class membership is never possible to the category where it is possible at some family sizes (namely families of three or more). After those adjustments the category where class membership is rever possible has nineteen (19) counties and the category where class membership is possible but not at all family sizes has twenty-eight (28) counties. In Schenectady County the family sizes at which class membership is impossible shrinks to families of 1, 2 and 4; and in Erie County class membership remains impossible only for families of 8.

8. As we have demonstrated, such increases only serve to increase the scope of the class. Likewise the seemingly ceaseless series of changes further undercuts the Commissioner's contentions that his medical assistance allowances are averages;

Supplemental Affidavit of Rene H. Reixach, sworn to October 15, 1975

certainly for the last several months no one, including apparently the Commissioner, could have been in a position to compute such averages.

WHEREFORE, your deponent prays that the relief, including class action status, prayed for by the plaintiffs be granted.

RENE H. REIXACH

Sworn to before me this

15th day of October, 1975.

K. WADE EATON
Notary Public in the State of New York
MONROE COUNTY, N. Y.
Commission Expires March 39, 19.76

Monthly Maximum Shelter Allowances, effective October 15, 1975, Exhibit A to Reixach affidavit of October 15

LOCAL AGENCY MAXIMUM MONTHLY SHELTER ALLOWANCES WITHOUT HEAT

By Family Size

•	1	2	3	L.	. 5	6	7	8+
	L							
Albany	126	151	153	153	153	153	153	153
Allegary	88	105	106	106	106	106	106	106
Broome	108	130	136	136	136	136	150	150
Cattarangus	69	84	93	93	93	93	93 114	93
Canas	78	94	94	100	106 96	101	107	157
Chartaiqua	75	90	.90	96	115	129	137	137
Creaming	82	99	104	107 98	108	108	108	121
Chenango	68	83 71	78	88	92	92	93	93
Clinton	58	130	130	132	132	132	132	132
Columbia	108	120	120	140	151	155	155	161
Cortland	78	95	97	97	97	97	97	102
Delaware	113	135	143	145	155	155	155	155
Drichess	113	135	135	135	137	137	137	137
Erie Essex	74	90	90	90	90	90	90	91
Franklin	69	83	83	91	91	91	91	91
Fulton	83	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Genesee	97	116	116	116	116	116	116	171
Greene	- 88	106	103	110	110	110	110	113
Hamilton	56 122	70	85	85	89	97	103	113
Herkiner	122	147	147	147	147	147	147	147
Jefferson	- 56 70 77	70	78	79	89	97	103	113
Iewis	70	85	85	90	93	95	110	111
Livingston	77	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
Madison	105	127	127	127	127	127	127	127
Monroe	120	11,1,	152	156	157	165	165	176 127
Montgomery	76	92	92	92	94	94 285	333	355
Nassau	145	176	225	251 185	271 189	209	261	273
New York City	133	160	169 114	115	124	126	165	165
Niagara	91	110 93	100	101	107	118	130	130
Oneida	76 106	127	127	127	140	159	159	160
Onondaga	106	128	132	132	132	143	143	143
Ontario .	124	149	165	167	167	176	176	176
Orange Orleans	81	98	101	101	101	101	115	115
	77	93	105	105	115	120	125	125
Otsego	95	116	116	116	116	116	116	125
Putnem	118	141	165	165	165	208	208	209
Rensselær	84	102	102	102	102	102	102	121
Rockland	160	193	228	242	285	317	356	388
St. Lawrence	83	101	102	109	109	110	110	110
Saratoga	104	125	134	1/,1	148	148	148	148
Schenectady	92	111	113	114	125	146	146	155
Schoharie	96	116	116	116	116	116	116	125
Schryler	105	127	127	127	127	127	127	127

Exhibit A-1 -219Monthly Maximum Shelter Allowances, effective October 15, 1975, Exhibit A to Reixach affidavit of October 15

1975

Local Agency Maximum Monthly Smalter Allowances Without Heat (Con't)

		By	Family S	Size				
	1	2	3	14	5	6	7	8÷
Seneca Steuben Suffolk Sullivan Tioga Tompkins Ulster Warren Washington Wayne Westchester Wyoming Yates	83 79 185 120 67 103 109 83 .96 155 80 62	101 95 224 144 82 130 131 97 100 116 185 97	101 115 244 161 95 137 135 98 100 116 226 98	101 115 263 169 95 141 140 100 100 116 232 98	106 115 275 183 95 146 142 100 105 116 287 106 80	106 116 282 204 95 163 158 100 106 116 287 106	107 116 283 204 99 163 158 110 106 116 348 110 80	157 132 313 204 99 184 159 111 114 116 400 111

Monthly Maximum Shelter Allowances, effective October 15, 1975, Exhibit A to Reixach affidavit of October 15

1975
LOCAL ACENCY MAXIMUM MONIMUM SHELTER ALLOWANCES WITH HEAT

By Family Size

	1	2	3	Ŀ	5	6	. 7	÷3
Albany	143	171	179	187	189	191	193	105
Allegary	113	17.1	151	162	165	167		195
Broome	133	1 <u>/-1</u> 165	181	192	195	197	171	175
Cattaraugus	94	119	138	149	150		215	219
Cayuga	100	125	134	150	152 159	154	158	162
Chartarqua	88	106	111	122	125	170	174	183
Cheming .	104	130	11.1.		125	130	139	191
Crenango	93	113	113	157	168	185	197	200
Clinton	83	106	143	154	167	169	173	190
Columbia	130	161	123	144	151	153	158	162
Cortland	125		170	182	185	188	192	195
Delaware		155	165	196	210	216	220	230
	103	130	11.2	153	156	158	162	171
Ditchess	135	157	133	195	208	211	215	218
Arie	125	153	157	164	169	170	172	173
Essex	104	133	11.2 135	159	163	166	167	177
Franklin	99	125	135	160	164	167	168	177
Fulton	103	135	11.5	156	159	161	165	169
Genesee ·	119	11.7	156	166	169	172	176	234
Greene	110	137	148 137	160	163 1	166	170	176
Hamilton	- 85	113	137	154	162	173	180	199
Herkimer	147	182	192	203	206	208	212	216
Jefferson	81	105	123	135	148	158	168	182
Lewis	95	120	131	146	152	156	175	180
Livingston	99	121,	133	143	146	149	153	156
Madison	130	162	172	183	186	188	192	196
Monroe	136	165	131	192	195	204	208	221
Montgomery	101	127	137	148	153	155	159	196
Nassau	165	203	253	293	316	332	383	408
New York City	149	183	194	218	226	249	303	317
läagara	104	125	135	141	153	155	197	199
Oneida	101	123	11.5	157	166	179	195	199
Chondaga	128	158	167	177	193	215	219	223
Catario	128	159	172	182	185	199	203	206
Orange .	145	150	206	217	220	232	236	239
Orleans .	103	129	11.1	151	154	157	175	178
Oswego '	99	121	11.5	155	168	176	185	188
Otsego	121	151	161	172	175	177	181	194
Putnen	140	172	205	215	218	264	268	
Rensselaer	101	122	123	136	138	140		272
Rockland	179	220	251	284			142	163
St. Lawrence	108	135	11.7	165	330 168	364	406	141
Saratoga	129	150	179			171	175	179
Schenectady	109	131	139	197	207	209	213	217
Schoharie	121	151	161	143	161	184	185	197
Schuyler	127	153		172	175	177	181	194
	121	175	167	177	180	183	187	190

1975
Local Agency Maximum Monthly Shelter Allowances With Heat (Con't)

		By	Family :	Size				
	1	2	3	Ŀ	5	6	7	8÷
Seneca	105	132	11.1 160	151	159	162	167	220
Steuben	104	130	160	171	174	177	181	201
Siffolk	205	251	277	305	320	329	333	366
Sillivan	. 145	179	206	225	242	265	269	273
Tioga	92	117	140	151	154	156	164	168
Tomkins	130	151	177	191	199	219	223	247
Ulster	131	162	175	190	195	214	218	222
Warren	105.	132	143	156	159	161	175	180
Washington	105	131	140	150	158	162	166	177
Wayna	118	11.7	156	166	169	172	176	179
Westchester	174	212	259	274	332	334	398	453
Wyoming	105	132	11.3	154	165	167	175	180
Yates	84	106	120	130	133	136	140	143

11

Administrative Letter No. 75 ADM-98A correcting computational error in monthly maximum shelter allowances for single prison households, Exhibit B to Reixach affidavit of October 15.

STATE OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
1450 WESTERN AVENUE
21 BANY, NEW YORK 12203

ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER

Effective: October 1, 1975

TRANSMITTAL NO .: 75 ADM-98A

To: Commissioners of Social Services

DATE: Sept. 18, 1975

SUBJECT:

Correction of 75 ADM-98
Revised Shelter Allowences -

Policy and Schedules

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION:

All Public Assistance Staff

All Accounting Staff

All Medical Assistance Staff

Transmittal No. 75 ADM—33 contained a computational error in the maximum shelter allowances for a one-person household in sixteen social services districts. In each case correction of this error results in an increase in the maximum allowable rent for this household size.

The corrected maximum allowances for single-person households are:

District	Without Heat	With Heat
New York City	136	152
Broome	111	136
Cheming	87.	106
Cortland	102	127
Franklin	71	101
Fulton	85	110
Nassau .	150	169
Orange	127	149
Orleans	83	105
Oskego	79	101
Rockland	79 164	183
Seneca :	86	108
Warren	82	107
Washington	. 85	107
Wyoming	82	107
Yates	64	86

Please make the appropriate changes on the schedules attached to 75 ADM-98.

FILING REFERE Prev. Comm. 75 ADM-98	Dept. Reg. 352.3(a)	-
Bulletin Re. B. 134		

Executive Deputy Commissioner

ORM DSS-296 (5/74)

Eyhib:+ B

Monthly Allowances for Natural Gas and other Fuel promulgated October 1, 1975, Exhibit C to Reixach affidavit of October 15

STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

1450 WESTERN AVENUE . ALBANY 12243

STEPHEN BERGER Commissioner

September 18, 1975

Paul Harrison Assistant Attorney General Decartment of Law 300 Terminal Building 65 Broad Street Rochester, New York 14614 RECEIVED

SEP 22 1975

DEPARTMENT OF LAW ROCHESTER OFFICE

Re: Ciulla v. Lavine

Dear Mr. Harrison:

Enclosed is the New York State Department of Social Services' proposed revision of 18 NYCRR 352.5(a). The proposal creates two fuel schedules: one for natural gas and the other for fuels other than natural gas. The schedules have been distributed to the various county social services districts for comment. Barring inforeseen developments, the proposal will be filed by October 1, 1975 and in effect October 1, 1975.

Please note that Chautauqua County does not appear in Schedule SA-6a. It should appear with the group beginning with Albany County.

Sincerely,

Clifford Royael Director, Litigation Bureau

by: John Wiley

Assistant Attorney

Jii/rb Enc.

Exhibit C-1

Monthly Allowances , for Natural Gas and other Fuel

STATE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ALBANY, NEW YORK

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 20 and 34 of the Social Services Law, I, Stephen Berger, Commissioner of Social Services, do hereby amend in part, as hereinafter indicated, Section 352.5 of the Official Regulations of the State Department of Social Services, being Chapter II of Title 18 NYCRR, effective October 1, 1975.

Subdivision (a) of section 352.5 is hereby repealed, and a new subdivision (a) is hereby added to read as follows:

Monthly Allowances for Natural Gas and other Fuel

352.5 Fuel-for-heating allowance (a) Each social services district shall grant an allowance for fuel for heating when it is not included in the cost of shelter in accordance with the appropriate following schedule.

Schedule SA-6 a

Monthly Allowances for Fuel for Heating: Other than Matural Gas

	New York City			• •		•			
	# of persons	1 .	2 .	3 .	4	.5	6 .	. 7	8+
	12 month	\$16	23	25	32	37	40	42	44
*	8 month	\$24	34	37	47	56	.59	63	66
	8 morrers						٠٠ .		
	Counties of:	Essex, Fra	nklin,	Hamilto	ou .				•
D	# of persons	- 1	2	3	- 4	5	6.	7	8+
	12 month	\$30	43	52	69	73	76	77	86
	8 month	\$44	- 64	77	103	109	114	116	129
	0 111011								

Counties of: Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chenango, Clinton, Cortland, Delaware, Erie, Fulton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schoharie, Steuben, Sullivan, Tioga, Warren, Wyoming

# of persons	1	ı	2	3	4	5-	6	7	8+
12 month	. \$2	25	35	45.	56	.59	61	65	69
8 month	· \$:	37	52	67	83	. 88	92	98 -	103

Counties of: Albany, Cayuga, Chemung, Columbia, Dutchess, Genesee, Greene,
Livingston, Monroe, Miagara, Chemung, Ontario, Orange, Orleans,
Oswego, Putnam, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Schuyler, Seneca, Tompkins,
Ulster, Washington, Wayne, Yates

# of persons	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
12 month	\$22	31	40	50	53	56	60	: 63
8 month	\$33	47	59	74	79	84	89	94.

Month	y Allowances	for	Natural	Gas	and
other	Fuel	-	45		

Counties of:	Nassau,	Rockland,	Suffo	lk, West	tcheste	r.		
# of persons			3		. 5	6	7	8+ .
12 month =	\$19	27	33	42	45	_ 47	50	53
8 month	\$28	40	49	63	67	70	74	79

Schedule SA-6 b

Monthly Allowances	fer	Fuel	for	Heating:	Natural	Gas
MANTHIV ALLUMANCES						

					•					
	Counties of:	Allegany, C	attarau	gus, E	rie, Ste	euben, "	lyoming			
	# of persons	1	2	3 .	4	5	6	. 7	8+ .	
	12 month	\$13	18	24	29	32	33	35	36	
!	8 month	\$20	27	35	44	47	49	52	54	
				•	:					
	County of: M	onroe	. •							
	# of persons	1.	2	.3	4	5 .	6	7 :	8+	
	12 month	\$16	21	29	36	38 .	39	43	45	
•	8 month	\$23.	32	43	54	57.	58	64	68	•
	Counties of:	Genesee, N	iagama,	Chauta	auqua					
	# of persons	1 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+	
	12 month	\$13	16.	21	26	29	29	32	34	
	8 month	\$19	24	32	39	43	44	47	50	
	Counties of:	Albany, Co	lumbia,	Onond	aga, Osi	wego, Ro	enssela	er, Sch	enectad	3
	# of persons	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+	
	12 month	\$17	20	26	34	36	38 .	.40	42	
	8 month	\$25	30	39	50	54	56	60	63	
				:/	C-4	1				

	_	••								
	County of: Tioga			٠.	,	••			• .	
	# of persons	1	2	3	4 .	5	6 .	7	8+	
	12 month	\$14	24	26	28	34	37	38	40	
	8 month	\$21	35	39	42	50	55	57	60	
				:			٠.			
	County of: Cortl	and			1					
	# of persons	1	2	3 .	4	5	6	7	8+	
	12 month	\$13	19	26	31	34	36	39	40	
	8 month	\$20	28	39	46	50	54	58	60 .	
,	•						•		•	
	Counties of: Full	ton, Her	rkimer, Warren	Jeffer	son, Mad	dison, 1	lontgome	ery, One	eida, St.	Lawrence,
	•				14 .	5	6:	7	8+	
	# of persons	1 -	2	3	-	•				
	12 month	\$16	23	31	35	38	40	42	46	
	8 month	\$24	34	46	53	57	.60	63	69 5	•
			:					. 1		
	County of: Chen	ango			•	•				
	# of persons	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	. 8+	
,	12 month	\$17	23	29	35	38	41	43 .	43 .	
	6 month	\$26	35 -	44	53	57	61	64	65	
		•		٠.		• •		•		
	Counties of: Br	roome, De	elaware			·				•
	# of persons	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+	
	12 month	\$14	21	26	32	32	.35	37	39	
	8 month	\$20	31	39	48	49	52	55	58	

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/								
County of: Orl	eans							
# of persons	1	2 .	3	4 .	5.	6	7	8+ .
12 month =	\$15	22	30	36	39	40	43	45
8 month	\$23	35	45	55	58	60	65	67
				. Oot	ario C	tsean.	Seneca.	Tompkins,
Counties of: C	layuga, Che layne, Yate	mung, L	.1v1mgs		,	,,,,		
# of persons	1	2	3	4	5	6.	7	8+
12 month	\$14	18	27	32	34	36	39	40
8 month	\$21	28	41	48	52	53	58	60
				*** - 4 -	_ :			
Counties of:	Dutchess, C	reene,						8+ .
# of persons	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
12 month	\$21	28	141	50	53	55	60	62
8 month .	\$32	42	62	75	80 .	82	90	92
						•	,	
County of: Sc					_	6	7 1	8+
# of persons	1	2	3	4	5 .		1	
12 month	\$12	16	24	29	31.	32	35	36
8 month	\$17	23	36	43	46	48	.52	54
Counties of:	Naccau Su	ffolk.	New Yor	k City			•	
			3	4	5	6	7	.8+
# of persons	1	2 .			36	39	41	42
12 month	· \$14 ⁾	21	27	35				63
8 month	\$21	31	41	52	55	58	61	
County of: W		Ŀ			5	6	. 7	8+
# of persons	1	3	3.					36
12 month	\$12	18	24	29	31	32	34	
8 month	` \$18	27	36	. 44	46	49	52	54
						The second secon		

- 6 -

County of: Rock	land			•				
# of persons	1	2	3 .	4	5	6	7 .	48
12 month	\$10	14	18	23	24	25	27	28
8 month.	\$15	21	27	35	36	38	40	42

Dated:

Signed:	
	COMMISSIONER

This is to certify that this is the original of an order of the State Department of Social Services, made on amending in part Section 352.5 of the Official Regulations of the State Department of Social Services, being Title 18, NYCRA.

Dated:

Si.gned:		
ū	COMMISSIONER	

-230-

Simplified Methods for Determining Needs, HEW 1964, Defendant Berger's Exhibit 1.

Simplified Methods for Determining Needs

by Gladys O. White Home Economics Consultant Division of Welfare Services

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Welfare Administration
Bureau of Family Services

-23%-

FORE WORD

Many State agencies are concerned about complicated procedures for determination of need in the public assistance programs and are seeking ways to simplify the process. This document discusses principles of simplification of standards for requirements which States may apply in their individual State situations.

When both income and resources must be taken into account, the need determination is complex. Therefore, the presentation of cost standards for requirements and the ways of handling resources under the terms of existing laws should be as simple as possible. A State may have a very simple method for workers to use in arriving at total requirements but, because of methods of handling resources, a very complicated system of determining need.

The Federal Handbook of Public Assistance Administration suggests simplified methods for arriving at net income for employed persons. At best, however, the calculation of each individual's income and resources perhaps cannot be quite as simple as the determination of requirements based on budgetary standards to be used for groups of people. Again, programs such as those reaching the age., blind, and families with dependent children, require different methods of handling income.

To present individual cost standards by a fair and simplified method, certain facts in each State situation must be known. A few of these facts and the use to be made of them are discussed in this publication.

Fred H. Steininger

Fred H. Steininger Director Bureau of Family Services Welfare Administration

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METHODS

Although several methods of presenting cost standards for workers to use are available to States, the method chosen must be statewide in its application. It is strongly recommended that, if at all feasible, identical cost standards also be used statewide. Any variation in cost standards by areas within a State must be justified by facts.

The following three forms may suggest to States methods which they may use to simplify the process of determining need.

Each form is designed to serve all public assistance programs. A common standard is used because the basic requirements of all people are the same regardless of which program serves them.

The amount of total requirements should be printed on each form for the worker to use as a budget form. Each form also has space for computations and verification of income. Instructions are printed on the back of each form.

Even though cost standards may vary by areas, all counties within the State must use the same form.

For example, if a State uses fuel cost standards by areas, cost can include these areas in the total requirements. Each form showing different total requirements will need to be numbered separately, with the particular areas to which the form applies listed on the back.

Methods I and III (pp. 2 and 4) include cost figures for all of the basic items of requirements. If a recipient's need for any of these items is fully met each month without cost to him, the value to be shown as income should never be in excess of the amount included for the item in requirements. Method II (p. 3) differs from Methods I and III by permitting the worker to enter the amount of the standard for shelter and special needs.

Method I

Method I combines cost standards for all basic requirements. 1/ The worker may use the column appropriate to the number of persons in the assistance group. 2/

The amount of total basic requirements can be printed on the form in the space where dollar marks appear on the "dummy" form. The form will then serve as a budget form for the worker to use without having to transfer the figures. This form does NOT provide for special need items.

Method I is applicable when State policies for need determination relate only to a single assistance group, without consideration of other assistance groups in the same household or of non-needy members of the same household.

The net monthly income can be computed on the form and subtracted from the total requirements to obtain the amount of the deficit and grant.

The first column is provided for one adult and is divided by type of living arrangement. The cost standards are usually higher for a person who lives alone.

The State should provide an amount (in parentheses under "Children Only") for a child who does not live with parents, or whose caretaker is not needy—for example, when the child is budgeted only for food, clothing, personal incidentals, and school costs.

I/ Includes clothing, electricity, food, fuel, household equipment, household supplies, medicine-chest supplies, personal incidentals, phone, school costs, shelter, transportation, and water.

^{2/} Assistance group, as used in this paper, means those persons in a single public assistance program whose requirements are included in the determination of need.

Date Case Name Case Number											
METHOD I											
	Requ	irement	s and I	Budget	Form	for OA	A, AB,	AFDC,	APTD	1/	
·		Number	of Per	sons i	n Assi	stance	Group				Children
7 Adult 0											
		Not Alone	2	3	4	5	6	7	В	Over 8	
Total cuire-		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	3	\$	\$	\$	\$X(No. of Children)
Less Incom?											
Deficit											
Grant										>	
MONTHLY	INCOME	•						VEZ	RIFICAT	TION OF I	NCOME
Wage				• •							
OASI	- Control Control										
Pens	ion					•					
Othe	r	·		٠,							
· Tota	al	·			•						
instruction	ns: See	e revers	se side								
medicin	s clothi e-chest	Sabbrie	ectrici es, per	ty, i'd	1.1010	entals	ousehol	Ld equi	ipment	, househo	old supplies, lter, transporta-

Instructions:

Circle number of persons in assistance group (line A). Compute income in space provided at bottom of page, showing verifications. Enter total income (line C). Subtract from total requirements (line B) to obtain the deficit (line D) and the amount of the grant (line E).

- Note: 1. For each person in excess of 8, show the number in the parenthesis in the "over 6" column and add 5 for each such person to the printed figure already provided.
 - For children who do not live with parents, or whose caretaker is not needy, that is, for children who are budgeted only for food, clothing, school costs, and personal incidentals, multiply the number of children by the amount provided in the last column.

6

. 4

Method II

Method II combines cost standards for all basic requirements 1/ except shelter and i pludes space for special needs. As in Method I, the worker may use the company populate to the number of persons in the assistance group.

The amount of total basic requirements (except shelter) can be printed on the form in the space where dollar marks appear on the "dummy" form. The form will then serve as a budget sheet for the worker to add shelter cost to the other requirements without having to transfer the figures.

Method II, like Method I, is applicable when State policies for need determination relate only to a single assistance group, without consideration of other assistance groups in the same household or of non-needy members of the same household.

The net monthly income can be computed on the form and subtracted from the total requirements to obtain the amount of the deficit and grant.

The first column is provided for one adult and is divided by type of living arrangement. The cost standards are usually higher for a person who lives alone.

An amount is provided (in parentheses under "Children Only") for a child who does not live with parents, or whose caretaker is not needy--for example, when the child is budgeted only for food, clothing, personal incidentals, and school costs.

Includes clothing, electricity, food, fuel, household equipment, household supplies, medicine-chest supplies, personal incidentals, phone, school costs, transportation, and water.

	s	implif:	ied Me	ethods	for	Deter	minin	g Need	ds		
Form No								Date	lane	<u> </u>	
6		:								er	
) ETHO	II o					
	R	equiren	ents ar	nd Budg	et For	m for	OAA,	AB, AFI	OC, AP	TD <u>1</u> /	
			iunber	of Per	sons :	in Assi	Istance	e Grou	,r.		
A		dult Not Alone	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Over 8	Children Only
B. Require- ments	\$	\$.	8	Ş	\$	3	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$X(No. of Children)
C. Shelter											-
D. Special leeds											·
E. Total		:									
Less								_			
G. Deficit											
H. Grant	1										
MONTHLY	INCOME							VERIF1	CATIO	N OF INCO	DME .
Wage											
OASI											
Pens	sion										
Othe	er					•					
Tota	al _							Instr	uction	s: See	reverse side

I/ Includes clothing, electricity, food, fuel, household equipment, household supplies, medicine-chest supplies, personal incidentals, phone, school costs, transportation, and water.

Instructions:

Circle number of persons in assistance group (line A). Enter the amount of standard for shelter and special needs (if any) on lines C and D. Add lines B, C, and D to arrive at total (line E). Compute income in space provided at bottom of page, showing verifications. Enter total income (line F). Subtract from total requirements (line E) to obtain the deficit (line G) and the amount of the grant (line H).

- Note: 1. For each person in excess of 8, show the number in the parenthesis in the "over 8" column and add 3 for each such person to the printed figure already provided.
 - 2. For children who do not live with parents, or whose caretaker is not needy, that is, for children who are budgeted only for food, clothing, school costs, and personal incidentals, multiply the number of children by the amount provided in the last column.

6

6

Method III

Method III combines cost standards for all basic requirements 1/ but provides a different technique for using the requirements in arriving at the amount of assistance to be paid.

Many States budget the requirements for the assistance group according to the number of persons in the total household; that is, when others in the household cook and eat with the assistance group and share common household expenses, these expenses are prorated accordingly. Method III is designed to take this into account. The same method is applicable when two or more assistance groups live as one household.

For example, in method III if the AFEC group is composed of 3 persons who live in a household with 3 other persons, the worker will circle the figure 3 in the left stub and also circle the amount of money (dollar marks on "dummy" form) shown under 6 following across from 3 and record in the computation column on the right hand side of the form. This amount of money is for the assistance group of 3 but is different from amount shown under the household of 3 because the group lives with the amount shown under the household of 6. If the assistance group of 3 lives in a household alone, the worker will circle the amount under a household of 3 and record in the computation column.

This form, like Method I, has been designed to provide for the amount of the total requirements to be printed on the form. It is necessary for the worker to enter the amount in the computation column. Space is provided on the back of the form for verification of income. Space may be provided or this form for the shelter and special need items if they are not included in total requirements (see Method II).

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Includes clothing, electricity, food, fuel, household equipment, household supplies, medicine-chest supplies, personal incidentals, phone, school costs, shelter, transportation, water.

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METHOD III Requirements and Budget Form for OAA, AB, AFDC, APID 1/											Case Number
Number of Persons in Assistance Group			Livi	ng in	a Ho	isehol	Computations Circle Number of Persons in Assistance Group				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 or more	Circle Size of Household; Enter This Amount Below:
1 2 3 4 5 6	\$	65 \$	3 5 5	\$ \$ \$	\$ \$ \$	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$ \$ 5 5 5 5	\$ \$ \$ \$	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	Total Basics Additional over 8 () Income Deficit Grant Monthly Income
. 8								\$	\$	8	Vages OASI Pension Other

Instructions: See reverse side. .

Total Income

Instructions:

NOTE: 1. For each person in excess of 8, show the number in parenthesis in the space provided under computations and add \$ ____ for each such person to the amount shown for the assistance group of 8.

2. For children who do not live with parents, or whose caretaker is not needy, that is, for children who are budgeted only for food, clothing, school costs, and personal incidental's, multiply the number of children by the amount provided in the last column.

Simplification of Requirements

To combine the cost standards for the basic requirements 1/ by these simplified methods, a State must have certain information about the assistance caseload and the State characteristics which influence the development of standards.

Family Composition

It is necessary to know the composition of the families served by the program. 2/ For example, if the family of 3 in a given State is most frequently composed of an adult, a child of 7-12, and a child of 13-18, use the food cost figures best suited to those ages, as they appear in the U.S. Department of Agriculture publication, Family Economics Review. 3/ Amounts for all other basic items can then be added to this grouping. Comparable determinations will need to be made for families of 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8. An adjustment factor may be used for families with more than 8 persons.

The cost of living is usually higher for one person living alone than for one who shares expenses with others. Food, for example, costs more per person for one person living alone than for any other size household. These higher costs should be recognized in arriving at total requirements.

In order to use the same cost standards for the four programs (OAA, AB, AFDC, APTD), the family of two probably should have personal requirements calculated for two adults in the combined totals. By this method the requirements would be applicable both in the adult programs and in AFDC for a caretaker and one child of any age.

A combined total for the cost of common household items such as utilities, household supplies, and equipment is relatively easy to determine by family size By contrast, a combined total for personal items, because these costs vary by age of family members, is more difficult to pre-add.

Clothing, electricity, food, fuel, household equipment, household supplies, personal incidentals, medicine chest supplies, phone, school cost, shelter, transportation, and water.

2/ Tables 1, 17, 25, 29; Characteristics of Families Receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Movember-December 1961, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Welfare Administration, Eureau of Family Services, Division of Program Statistics and Analysis, April 1963.

Table 1, Characteristics and Financial Circumstances of Recipients of Old-Age Assistance, 1900, Part II, State Data, Public Assistance Report No. 10, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Social Security Administration, June 1962.

3/ Where different cost figures are included for boys or girls, it is recommended that the higher figure be used.

TY 244-

8

Special Needs

The Federal Handbook of Public Assistance Administration provides that a State plan may contain the description of the specified circumstances affecting the need of the individual. These the State agency will recognize by including consumption items, in addition to the basics, for all individuals in those circumstances. If the State provides for modifications of the basic items, the circumstances requiring these modifications must be justifiably different from those recognized as necessary to all individuals.

This principle of "special needs" was intended to provide a more individualized approach in the development of cost standards. This method of individualization requires judgment on the part of the worker and knowledge on the part of the client as to the agency's policies.

The practical problem in the effective use of the special need items is the lack of equity that results because of the variations among workers in knowledge, attitudes, and even available time, together with the variations among recipients in knowledge of what they can ask for. The net effect is that in some States certain recipients' needs are fairly substantially met, whereas others may receive only the minimum amounts.

Perhaps a more equitable, liberal (for total caseload), and simple method is to have realistic money amounts in the standards of requirements for basic needs without the individualization of special needs. A differentiation can be made for different living arrangements, such as variations in costs for room and board, restaurant meals, or mursing home care.

If the State uses items of special need, it is recommended that the cost figures be presented in a table. Such a table will be easier to use than the same information presented in text form.

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Program Instruction APA-PI-74-17, HEW 1974, re: Consolidated Public Assistance Standards, Defendant Berger's Exhibit 2

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

PROGRAM INSTRUCTION
APA-PI-74-17
June 10, 1974

TO:

STATE AGENCIES ADMINISTERING APPROVED PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PLANS

SUBJECT:

Consolidated Standards - Cost Differentials

CONTENT:

45 CFR 233.20(a)(2) provides that a State plan for OAA, AFDC, AB, APTD, or AABD must "specify a statewide standard, expressed in money amounts, to be used in determining the need of applicants and recipients and the amount of the assistance payment."

Federal policy further provides that by July 1, 1969, the State's standard of assistance for the AFDC program must have been adjusted to reflect fully changes in living costs since such standards were established and any maximums imposed by the State on the amount of aid paid to families must have been proportionately adjusted.

In such adjustment, a consolidation of the standard (i.e., combining items) may not result in a reduction of the content of the standard. Furthermore, the State must provide that the standard will be uniformly applied throughout the State.

The provisions in section 402(a)(1) of the Social Security Act provide the basis for the requirement of a single statewide standard of a sistance. However, area differentials are permissible when there is objective, verifiable evidence that the differences are appreciable and based on actual differences in costs.

The Supreme Court in Wyman v. Boddie, 402 U.S. 991 (1971), affirmed without opinion; 434 F. 2d 1207 (1970), upheld the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare position that objective justification must be provided for such differentials. The principle has been further enunciated in several lower court cases.

In Rothstein v. Wyman, 398 U.S. 275 (1970), affirmed on other grounds; 303 F. Supp. 339 (1969), as well as in Boddie, the decisions emphasized that there must be objective, verifiable evidence that the differentials [2] are based on actual differences in costs. In Rothstein, the Court found no evidence justifying any disparity in the levels of schedules between New York City and the surrounding counties.

In Boddie, the Court noted that, with the exception of shelter and to a lesser degree utilities, variable cost differences between recipients similarly situated have not been shown to exist in New York State. With regard to cost studies conducted in May 1968 by the State, the Court stated: "that the only variation in costs between these areas was due to slight differences in utility rates. Every study undertaken by the Department since then has confirmed the initial conclusion that, with respect to the items covered by the basic grant, that is, food, clothing and personal care, home furnishings, household operations, transportation, education, and miscellaneous items, there are no objectively verifiable differences in cost.

To determine whether there are appreciable differences, the actual costs as determined by objective data must be sufficiently different when compared with the State's standard to meet the Court's test of "appreciable." If there are to be differentials, States are encouraged to limit such justifiable differentials to two or three.

Unless "appreciable" cost differences can be shown by objective data to exist, States

HEW Program Instruction re: Consolidated Public Assistance Standards

utilizing non-uniform standards violate section 402(a)(1) of the Social Security Act and 45 CFR 233.20(a)(2) which require a single state-wide standard of assistance.

INQUITIES TO:

SRS Regional Commissioners

Commissioner

Assistant Payments Administration

Guidelines for Development of Consolidated AFDC Assistance Standards (part) HEW 1974, Defendant Berger's Exhibit 3

GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CONSOLIDATED AFDC ASSISTANCE STANDARDS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICE ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS ADMINISTRATION SEPTEMBER 1974

HEW Guidelines for Consolidated AFDC Assistance Standards

PREFACE

This manual is intended to be used by State welfare agencies to familiarize and assist them in development of consolidated standards of assistance for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Program. In a step-by-step approach, the fundamentals of project management are emphasized. Explanation of the objectives of each chapter precedes suggested tasks and discussion of the work they involve. Additionally, each chapter details documentation requirements to facilitate HEW regional office review of proposed consolidation plans.

While this manual provides an approach with various options to consolidation of standards of assistance, it is not intended to be used as a definitive guide. The purpose of its publication is to provide State Administrators a description of the process of consolidation.

The approaches contained herein are not the only methods that can be used, but

they have been used effectively by several States.

It is hoped that this document will provide the reader with an insight to the process and procedures of consolidation and will assist States in adopting this equitable method of distribution of scarce resources to those who are most in need.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the contribution made by the late Richard M. Gertzof of American Data Systems, Inc. Without his initiative and long hours of work, this document would not have been prepared.

John A. Svahn

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INTRODUCTION

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A. Consolidated Standard Defined

A consolidated standard of assistance is a redefinition of a State's AFDC standards from individual items or groups of items to a single standard which is expressed in a dollar amount per recipient or per recipient family. This redefinition is accomplished by averaging payments for the individual items using a statistically fair method and combining these averages into a consolidated standard.

Specifically, the averaging and consolidation process may promote:

- Elimination of one or several special needs in the agency standard through incorporation into a consolidation figure;
- (2) Redefinition of a shelter standard and its qualifications into a flat amount per recipient or recipient family by "averaging away" the differences caused by such situations as subsidization by public housing, provision of free housing, or prorating of shelter costs between recipients and non-recipients in a household;
- (3) Redefinition of specific differentials such as geographic location, ages and sex of children, or other individual factors, into flat amounts on a per recipient or a recipient family basis.

A properly executed consolidation based on fair averaging principles will reasonably represent the state-wide application of needs determination as were formerly decided by assistance payments workers on an individual basis. Furthermore, fair averaging will assure recipients an equitable distribution of funds budgeted for all items in the State's standards of assistance.

B. Rationale for a Consolidated Standard

Many States have discovered that there are considerable difficulties in administering an AFDC public assistance program based on a determination of individual needs. Problems encountered include:

[1-1]

- A complicated standards structure which attempts to explicitly relate, the amounts of the payments to the individual circumstances of the recipient;
- (2) The inadequacy of the standards structure;
- (3) The greater chance of error in calculating detailed budget computation and in misinterpreting State policies which result in higher error rates;
- (4) Additional paperwork and staff time administering a more complex budget system;
- (5) Inequities in amounts of assistance among families in similar socioeconomic situations.

[i-2] Conversion to a consolidated standard controls many of these difficulties:

- (1) All recipients in similar situations are eligible for the same level of financial need and are treated on an equitable basis.
- (2) The consolidated standard of assistance is amenable to updating as costs of living change, permitting a State to adjust recipients' grants on a more timely basis.
- (3) The variations by case technicians in interpreting and applying policy are reduced.
- (4) Consolidated standards are adaptable to computer calculation of grants which speeds up grant delivery and reduces administrative error.
- (5) The error ratio of overpayments and underpayments due to incorrect budgeting of basic and special needs generally declines for those standards consolidated.

[i-2]

C. Legal Authority and Background

The enactment of Section 402(a)(23) of the Social Security Act in 1967 is a milestone, in that prior to its passage, States were traditionally at liberty to decide the levels of standards of needs and payment for public assistance. This is illustrated by the vast differences in the types and levels of standards in existence. Some States include items in their basic required standards that other States do not recognize at all. A few States pay 100% of need; others impose dollar maximums to an individual or family; still others scale payments by ratable reductions of a fixed percentage of the need standard.

Section 402(a)(23) reads as follows:

"(The States shall) provide that by July 1, 1969, the amounts used by the State to determine needs of individuals will have been adjusted to reflect fully changes in living costs since such amounts were established and any maximums that the State imposes on the amount of aid paid to families will have been proportionately adjusted."

Federal regulations in support of Section 402(a)(23) incorporated HEW interpretation and imposed certain requirements on State AFDC plans. Among the most important tenets of 45 CFR 233.20(a) are that the States:

"Provide that the determination of need and the amount of assistance for all applicants and recipients will be made on an objective and equitable basis and all types of incomes will be taken into consideration in the same way except where otherwise specifically authorized by Federal statute.

"Specify a statewide standard, expressed in money amounts, to be used in determining (a) the need of applicants and recipients and (b) the amount of the assistance payments.

"(The State Plan must) provide that by Ju. / 1, 1969, the State's standard of assistance for the AFDC program will have been adjusted to reflect fully [i-3] changes in living costs since such standards were established, and any maximums that the State imposes on the amount of aid paid to families will have been proportionately adjusted. In such adjustment a consolidation of the standard (i.e., combining of items) may not result in a reduction in the coment of the standard. In the event the State is not able to meet need in full under the adjusted standard, the State may make ratable reductions in accordance with subparagraph (3) (viii) of this paragraph (if full payments are precluded by maximums or insufficient funds, adjustments will be made by methods applied uniformly statewide). Nevertheless, if a State maintains a system of dollar maximum 3, these maximums must be proportionately adjusted in relation to the updated standards.

"Provide that the standard will be uniformly applied throughout the State."

"If the State agency includes special need items in its standard, (a) describe those that will be recognized, and the circumstances under which they will be included, and (b) provide that they will be considered in the need determination for all applicants and recipients requiring them."

It was not until the United States Supreme Court decided Rosado vs. Wyman in April, 1970 that the provisions of 402(a)(23) were tested and explicitly interpretend. In Rosado the Supreme Court ascribed two broad purposes to Section 402(a)(23), the first being that States "face up realistically to the magnitude of the public assistance requirement and lay bare the extent to which their program fell short of fulfilling actual need"; and the second, that they "apportion their payments on a more equitable basis."

The Court recognized that Section 402(a) (23) would still allow a State, "after recomputing its standard of need, (to) pare down payments to accommodate budgetary realities by reducing the percent of benefits paid or switching to a percent reduction system, but it may not obscure the actual standard of need."

The decision further reiterated that the Congressional intent was not for Section 402(a)(23) to be a meaningless exercise, and that States could not redefine their standards of assistance to circumvent the requirements of re-evaluating their existing standards. This precluded a State from reviewing its standards and then applying an update and percentage reduction in such a way that both the standards and payments made remained unchanged.

The Court concluded that Section 402(a)(23) invalidated "any program that substantially alters the content of the standard of need in such a way that it is less than it was prior to the enactment of 402(a)(23), unless a State can demonstrate that the items formerly included no longer constituted part of the reality of existence for the majority of welfare recipients. (The Court did not) hold that (States) may not, consistently with the Federal statutes, consolidate items on the basis of statistical averages. Obviously, such averaging may affect some families adversely and benefit others. Moreover, it is conceivable that the net payout, assuming no change in the level of benefits, may be someout less under a streamlined program. Providing all factors in the old equation are accounted for and fairly valued and providing the consolidation on a statistical basis reflects a fair averaging, a State may, of course, consistently with 402(a)(23) redefine its method for determining need. State may, moreover, as (the Court) noted, accommodate any increase in its standard by reason of 'cost-of-living' factors to its budget by reducing its level of benefits."

Based on the Supreme Court's interpretation of 40.(a)(23), procedures are clearly defined for establishing reasonable AFDC standards within the States. Furthermore, it

establishes a basis for guidelines for redefinition and consolidated standards of assistance. In general terms, any consolidation of AFDC standards must provide accountability for each consolidated item with confirmation that it has been averaged appropriately.

Some of the specific requirements and criteria of a consolidation plan are the

fellowing:

- (1) Consolidation must be based on standards of assistance that have been updated by July 1, 1969;
- (2) Consolidation must not result in overall reduction in the content of the existing standard:
- (3) The new standard must be applied equally and objectively to applicants and recipients alike;
- (4) A consolidated standard must be a statewide standard; and, therefore,
- (5) It must be uniformly applied throughout the State.

D. This Manual's Approach to Consolidation of AFDC Standards of Assistance

The purpose of this manual is to meet the objectives of developing a consolidated standard of cosistance based upon this legal framework.

The tollowing steps outline the general development and implementation:

- (1) Review the State standards of assistance, including policy manuals, State plan material, and applicable Federal laws and regulations;
- (2) Understand the method of initiating and authorizing of grant payments;
- (3) Identify each component of the State assistance standard and payments made, noting the history and evolution of standards;
- (4) Review and evaluate the State procedures for updating standards in accordance with Section 402(a)(23), and update those standards of assistance as required;
- (5) Obtain HEW approval of proposed updating methodology;
- (6) Determine which items are to be incorporated into the consolidated standard, those which are to be paid outside of the consolidated standard, and those which may legally be deleted from policy;
- (7) Design a statistical approach for surveying case records as a basis for developing fair averages;
- (8) Survey the necessary cases, updating str. dards where required;
- (9) Tabulate the results and determine their statistical validity;
- (10) For those standards to be updated on a percentage basis after surveying, apply percentage averages to arrive at updated consolidated standards for each recipient or recipient family;

- (11) Prepare analytical and financial reports reviewing the potential effect on recipients' budgets and on agency finances under alternative situations;
- (12) Prepare required administrative changes including development of policy and plan material, informational material, procedures, and forms;
- (13) Obtain HEW approval of plan material;
- (14) Implement the consolidated standards of assistance.

This manual is intended to guide the State agency in designing a consolidated standard of assistance that will meet the legal requirements and be responsive to its recipients' needs as well as its own.

E. Format

All definable phases are examined in depth. Each chapter is a separate entity which

explores the subject and may serve as a guide for the necessary tasks.

Generally, each chapter is divided into four or more basic sections. The first states the objectives and their significance. The second section suggests the tasks for meeting the given objectives. This list of task descriptions comprises the work program for the chapter. Because the manual is intended for use by different States, the work program may, on occasion, appear somewhat broad in scope. Therefore, the State should examine it with regard to its own unique situation.

Section three supplements the work program with particular elaboration on major tasks and suggested approaches. Section four of each chapter is included as a discussion of documentation requirements of each work program step. This section describes the format and content of completed work which may be requested for review by the HEW regional

office.

Additional sections of the manual are included as appropriate to describe special situations or to clarify the segments of the chapter.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

STEPHEN BERGER, et al.,

al.,

Defendants.

75 Civ. 1224

OPINION

43380

APPEARANCES:

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FRANKEL, D.J.

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Ten years ago, Congress enacted Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1396-1396g, the so-called "Medicaid" legislation. Medicaid is a cooperative federal-state medical assistance program operated under state direction, subject to extensive federal statutory and regulatory guidelines. States are not required to participate in Medicaid, nor, if they do participate, to extend benefits to any persons other than those receiving federally-funded public assistance sometimes referred to by responsible officials (and hereinafter) as "categorical assistance."1 If, however, a State decides to participate in Medicaid, it must submit a plan that comports with federal law. If the plan includes aid for people not receiving categorical assistance but qualifying as "medically needy,"2the State must observe the additional federal requirements applicable to this group of recipients. 3.

New York has elected to participate in the Medicaid Program and to extend benefits to the medically needy. The basic issues now before the court are whether New York's statutory and regulatory scheme setting income eligibility and

retention levels for the medically needy are compatible with applicable federal regulations, and, if not, whether these federal regulations are themselves inconsistent with the Social Security Act. 7

The plaintiffs are the wife and child of a disabled 54-year-old man who has been in a nursing home since 1972 and receiving medical assistance since October 17, 1974. As a medically needy "family" of two, tiffs, under New York's medical assistance law, are allowed to retain a total of \$317 per month for their p sonal maintenance expenses. The monthly standard of need for a family of two receiving categorical assistance, living in the same county and paving the same rent as plaintiffs, is \$370 per month. Thus, plaintiffs are allowed to retain \$53 less a month for their maintenance than the comparable public assistance standard of need for a family of two.

The discrepancy results from a difference in computing shelter allowances. For ADC recipients, these allowances are based upon actual rents paid. For the medically needy family, the allowance has nothing to do with the family's actual rent. It is instead based on a figure computed from statewide averages, which may be above or below actual rent. For the class of plaintiffs before us it is, of course, below.

To spell out these arrangements, which are not evident from the face of the State's Medicaid statute and regulations:

of the same size receives a basic allowance of the same amount, plus an allowance for shelter based upon actual rent paid up to the maximum set for shelter in a given family's social service district (county). For example, a family of two eligible for ADC receives a basic monthly allowance of \$150; if the family lives in Rockland County and pays \$250 a month rent, as plaintiffs do, it is entitled to a monthly shelter allowance of \$220, the maximum allowed in Rockland County. Thus, the total monthly public assistance standard of need for a family comparable to plaintiffs'in size, county of residence, and shelter costs, is \$370.

To arrive at the medical assistance income

levels, defendants average the shelter allowances

paid to all ADC families of a given size and

divide by the number of those families. The

resulting "mean shelter allowance" is then added

to the basic allowance to determine the income allowance

for a family of that size. Thus, some medically

needy families are entitled to retain more, others

less maintenance income than they would be paid
if they were without any income and paid cash
benefits under ADC. The crucial variable is shelter
cost, more specifically, whether a given family's
shelter costs exceed the shelter average.

Plaintiffs contend that this differential
violates federal regulations. They seek to
represent a class consisting of all persons in
New York receiving medical assistance who are
allowed to retain income for maintenance in an
amount less than the applicable standard of need under
New York's public assistance programs.

Seeking declaratory and injunctive relief, plaintiffs assert rights under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the Social Security Act, regulations promulgated thereunder, and the supremacy and equal protection clauses of the Constitution. They invoke the court's jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. §\$1331(a), and 1343(3) and (4). They seek to maintain the suit as a class action under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(b)(2). Plaintiffs have moved upon affidavits and a series of stipulations subsequently submitted for (1) a declaration that this is a proper class action and (2) summary judgment on their claim that the maintenance income levels of section 366(2)(a)(8) of the New York Social Services Law and accompanying regulations, 12 as applied to the plaintiff class,

violate 45 C.F.R. §248.3(c). Defendants cross-move to dismiss the complaint for lack of jurisdiction. There do not appear to be any material issues of fact. For the reasons stated below, both of plaintiffs' motions are granted.

Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction in welfare cases is a recurrent issue, regularly resolved for plaintiffs. 13 the court concludes that plaintiffs' equal protection claim is not "wholly insubstantial" or "obviously frivolous," as those phrases have been construed by the Supreme Court, 14 jurisdiction exists under 28 U.S.C. §13 3 (3) and there is no need to explore in detail the alternative jurisdictional bases asserted by plaintiffs. See Schaak v. Schwidt, 344 F. Supp. 99. 102-03 (E.D. Wisc. 1971). Suffice it to say that jurisdiction may also exist under 28 U.S.C. \$1331(a), 15 but apparently not under the other asserted This court can pass upon plaintiffs' "statutory" claims without deciding whether a three-judge court should be convened to decide the merits of plaintiffs' equal protection claim. 17

Class Action Motion

The question of class action treatment can also be dealt with summarily. Plaintiffs seek to represent all medically needy persons in New York who are required by defendants, pursuant to state statute and regulations, to live on a monthly income allowance which is below the level of need for categorial assistance families of the same size, living in the same county, and paying the same rent. This is a classic case for treatment as a class action under Ted: R.Civ. P. 23(b)(2). See, e.g., Almenares v. Wyman, 334 F. Supp. 512, 518-19 (S.D.N.Y. 1971), modified 453 F. 2d 1075 (2d Cir. 1972); Wilczynski v. Harder, 323 F. Supp. 509, 512 n.3 (D. Conn. 1971); Schaak v. Schmidt, supra at 104. Defendants' argument that plaintiffs have failed to identify sufficiently the members of the class might carry some weight if this were a (b) (3) class action where notice had to be given to class members. But it seems clear that there is no such requirement here. Frost v. Weinberger, 515 F.2d 57, 65 (2d Cir. 1975).

Inconsistency Between State and Federal Law

While the issue is a difficult one, the court has concluded that the income levels in New York's medical assistance statute and regulations do not conform with the requirements of 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c).

45 C.F.R. \$ 243.3(c)(1) requires that a state plan covering the medically needy "[p]rovide levels of income * * * for maintenance, in total dollar amounts, as a basis for establishing financial eligibility for medical assistance." The income levels referred to "must be, as a minimum, at the higher of the levels of the payment standards generally used as a measure of financial eligibility in the money payment [categorical assistance] programs * 45 C. F. R. §248.3(c)(1)(ii). For families of three or more, the income level is to be at the level of the payment standard under a State's ADC program "generally applied." For individuals and families of two, the income level is to be at the ADC payment standard "generally applied" or at the level of payments "generally available" under the SSI program, whichever is higher. Finally, the income of the medically needy must be applied "[f]irst, for maintenance, so that any income in an amount at or below the established level will be protected for maintenance" before any income may be applied to defray the costs of medical assistance. 45 C.F.R. \$248.3(c)(2),

The corresponding state law is found in NYSSL \$366(2)(a)(8)¹⁹ and N.Y.C.R.R. 35 360.5(e)²⁰ and 360.7(a)(5).²¹ These provisions set forth levels of income, in total dollar amounts, which corve both as a basis for establishing

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eligibility for medical assistance and as the level of income that may be retained for personal maintenance expenses by eligible medical assistance recipients. 22 Thus, New York law complies with the introductory sentence of 45 C.F.R. 5248.3(c)(1) by specifying "levels of income * * * for maintenance, in total dollar amounts, as a basis for establishing financial eligibility for medical assistance." The problems begin in subsequent subdivisions of the federal rule.

Subdivision (ii) of 45 C.F.R. \$248.3(c)(1) requires that the levels of income set be, "as a minimum, at the higher levels of the payment standards generally used as a measure of financial eligibility in the money payment programs [i.e., the ADC standard generally applied]."23 It is undisputed, or in any event obvious, that plaintiffs and an undetermined number of other medical assistance recipients are allowed to retain less income for maintenance than they would receive for maintenance if they were categorically needy (i.e., eligible for ADC assistance). Plaintiffs contend that this difference in level of maintenance income violates the requirement of 5 248.3(c)(1)(ii) that maintenance income be set, as a minimum, at the level of the applicable ADC payment standard. Defendants counter that \$248.3(c)(1)(ii) requires that the income levels be

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set at or above the ADC "payment standard generally applied" and that there is no such standard in New York's ADC assistance scheme other than that found in NYSSL \$366(2)(a)(8) and its accompanying regulations.

Under New York's ADC program, need is determined and benefits paid on a partially variable rather than totally flat grant basis. That is, for each family size, the standard of need, and identical payment standard, 24 consists of (1) a basic allowance in an amount equal for all families of a given size and (2) an allowance for shelter that varies from county to county and from family to family depending on the actual shelter costs incurred and the established county maximum. Hence, defendants argue that there is no ADC payment standard "generally applied" and that the actual ADC payment "standard" could not possibly be used as the medical assistance eligibility standard because it is not expressed in "total or flat dollar amounts."

The argument is thin as semantics and no more robust as a matter of legal reasoning. It is not correct in any relevant sense to say that New York lacks any ADC payment standard "generally applied" and that the "total dollar amounts" language of

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45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1) necessarily requires that the medical assistance standard be expressed in flat dollar amounts.

The composite need formula of NYSSL § 131-a is

New York's ADC payment standard. That the

application of this standard to families of the same

size results in different amounts of need and

corresponding grants does not vitiate it as a standard

"generally applied." The legal world is filled

with generally applicable standards that produce

varying individual results because of varying individual

circumstances responding to the material (and

general) criteria.

Defendants' reading of "total dollar amounts"

to preclude the use of the ADC methodology as

the medical assistance standard is, similarly,

a dry, scarcely inevitable, unpersuasive construction.

It is true, as defendants say, that the "total dollar

amounts" language of 45 C.F.R. \$248.3(c)(1) was

adopted to implement the "reasonable standards"

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language of 42 U.S.C. \$ 1396a(a)(17) and that this

statutory provision was meant to ensure that the states

adopted efficient methods of determining eligibility

for medical assistance.

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It is also true that NYSSL

\$ 366(2).(a)(8), as would be true of any standard set

in flat dollar amounts, is an efficient method of

determining eligibility. But it does not follow at all from these two flawless premises that no variable standard can satisfy the "total dollar amounts" requirement because such a standard is not expressed in flat dollar amounts.

The "total dollar amounts" language, fairly
read in light of its purpose, merely calls for
an obj ...e, efficient standard for determining
eligibility. Such a standard could either be
expressed in flat dollar amounts, as in NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8),
or be readily reducible to flat dollar amounts
as is the actual ADC standard in NYSSL § 131-a.

Indeed, New York apparently agreed with this broader
reading when it read very similar language in the
ADC cligibility regulation 1 to allow it to adopt
the variable standard now found in NYSSL § 131-a.

In spite of the existence of an actual ADC standard, defendants claim that NYSSL \$366(2)(a)(8) represents New York's only "ADC payment standard generally applied." This disputed provision was created for the purpose of setting income allowances for the medically needy. As described above, the figures in that provision were arrived at by (1) allegedly averaging the shelter allowances paid to all families of a given size receiving categorical assistance and (2) adding that average to the appropriate basic allowance.

This ad hoc "ADC payment standard" does not mesh acceptably with 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1). To determine whether a State's medical assistance standard is high enough, the federal regulation requires that it be compared with the "generally used" public assistance eligibility standard. Defendants' synthetic ADC standard, used to determine eligibility for medical rather than categorical assistance, cannot be compared with itself to test its own adequacy. When matched with the proper (i.e., actual) ADC standard, the artificial ADC standard, as the embodiment of the medical assistance eligibility standard, is sometimes adequate, sometimes not, as in the case of the class members before us. Despite the obvious incompatibility of their artificial standard with the requirements of the federal regulation, defendants insist that the "generally used" language sanctions their averaging methodology.

There is no sound basis f r defendants'

textual argument that the "generally used" language

of 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1)(ii) means or can mean a

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hypothetical "average" ADC payment standard. As

a matter of English, defendants' reading is hard

to accept. New York's "average ADC standard" is

never used, let alone generally used, as the ADC.

payment standard. That standard is found in NYSSL § 131-a.

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to be, as plaintiffs suggest, to contrast the general ADC standard with occasional departures from that standard made to take care of special needs and/or to take cognizance of the fact that some individuals were "grandfathered" into the SSI program even though they did not meet the generally used standard of SSI eligibility. 35

In further support of their textual argument, defendants find significance in a change in the language from a predecessor regulation that required medical assistance eligibility standards to be set "at the levels of the most liberal money payment standard used by the State * * *." 45 C.F.R. \$248,21(a)(3)(i)(B). It seems plain, however, that the change in language was not intended to effect any substantive change, but was made merely to reflect the amalgamation of Titles I, X, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act into a new Title XVI (the SSI program). Thus, it no longer made sense to talk about the most liberal money payment standard when there were only two such standards remaining, ADC and SSI. Hence, the language was changed to the higher of * * *." In Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands, where SST did not go into effect, the "most liberal" language was retained.

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Defendants' next argue that HEW's approval of New York's medical assistance plan demonstrates its validity. While HEW approval is some evidence of validity, it is not controlling. 37 It is not more than slightly persuasive when, as here, the so-called approval does not appear to have fell wed explicit attention to the destion now confronted. All that appears on the face of New York's medical assistance plan and NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8) are income amounts with no indication of how these figures were arrived at or whether they are at, below, or above the ADC payment standard. The "averaging" technique is only discovered after specific exploration. Furthermore, HEW has recently notified New York, in a quarterly compliance report, that its cash assistance payment standards are impermissibly higher than its medical assistance standards. This casts doubt upon the latter standards, if not upon the underlying averaging methodology as such.

This court concludes, as have other courts in closely analogous cases, that the State standard of care for its medically needy is in conflict with the governing federal regulations. See Dominguez v.Milliken, CCH Medicare and Medicaid Guide \$\frac{126}{633} (W.D.Mich. 1973); Schaak v. Schmidt, supra; Schlemewitz v. Lavine, 75 Misc. 2d 529 (Sup. Ct. Nassau Co. 1973).

Unless those regulations are themselves invalid, plaintiffs must prevail.

Validity of 45 C.F.R. \$248.3(c)

pretation of 45 C.F.R. §248.3(c) is adopted, as it now has been, then the regulation is inconsistent with, and thus invalid under, 42 U.S.C. §1396a(a)(17). For the reasons stated below, the court has concluded that the regulation is valid.

from 42 U.S.C. \$1396a(a)(17), which requires state plans to "include reasonable standards * * * for determining eligibility for and the extent of medical assistance. * * * " Pertinent legislative history and administrative interpretation indicate that the "reasonable standards" language encompasses at least two concepts: (1) regulatory simplicity⁴⁰ and (2) income levels set at or above the subsistence level under public assistance programs. By requiring eligibility standards to be in "total dollar amounts" and at the level of the higher payment standard used in a State's money payment programs, 45 C.F.R.

Defendants argue that 42 U.S.C. \$1396a(a)(17) allows the states to formulate their own eligibility standards so long as they are "reasonable." Since

New York's averaging methodology and resulting eligibility standards are said to constitute "reasonable standards," defendants urge the court to uphold the state statutory and regulatory scheme notwithstanding any contrary mandate in 45 C.F.R. \$248.3(c). Assuming arguendo that New York's eligibility standards are reasonable, that fact is irrelevant. The relevant inquiry is whether the federal regulation itself is a reasonable interpretation of 42 U.S.C. \$1396a(a)(17). See, e.g., Edelman

V. Jordan, 415 U.S. 651, 660 n.8 (1974). This court, like others before it, concludes that it is. See

Dominguez V. Milliken, supra at 9121 (upholding 45 C.F.R. \$248.21); Schaak V. Schmidt, supra at 103-04 (upholding 45 C.F.R. \$248-21).

Even if this were a contest as to which is more reasonable, the federal regulation would prevail. The programs in question are for real people with real needs, not statistical averages. Construing the legal documents liberally in favor of the needy, it makes eminent sense to read the standards in terms of every individual or family, not to hold that it is sufficient if some average is accomplished.

To discriminate against the self-supporting by requiring them to live on income below the level declared by New York to be necessary for minimal maintenance would do violence to the aims of the Medicaid legislation and common sense. Our concern here is with people who have not sought public assistance for routine support, but only to meet the catastrophe of serious illness. The court could not countenance for an instant the mean-spirited fiction that people driven to seek public assistance are somehow unworthy or undeserving. Nevertheless, it remains deep and familiar in our esteem for individual initiative that we would not deem it acceptable without some particular justification to treat those outside categorical assistance groups less generously than those within. The questioned regulation, fairly read, reflects this philosophy. No good reason appears either for reading it differently or holding it invalid.

It may be noted, finally, that today's decision, on defendants' own analysis, does not entail any inevitable increase in the State's Medicaid outlays. Those who pay less than average shelter allowances for rent have in a sense been receiving windfalls. Nobody supposes these extra benefits are compelled as a matter of federal law or regulation. This court holds only that those disadvantaged by the Procrustean average are entitled individually to the concrete

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benefits of the federally mandated standards.

Having concluded that NYSSI, 5366(2)(a)(8) and N.Y.C.R.R. \$5 360.5 and 360.7 are incompatible with 45 C.F.R. \$248.3(c) and that the federal regulation is valid, the court (1) declares the state statute and regulations invalid as applied to class members, (2) will enjoin defendants from enforcing these provisions against class members, and (3) will order defendants to compute the entitlements of class members on the basis hereinabove outlined, namely, to protect for maintenance amounts no less than those allowed to comparable ADC recipients.

Settle a final decree on notice.

Dated, New York, New York

November 12, 1975

Marin E. Taulel

FOOTHOTES:

- 1. 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(h)(1970). The federally-funded public assistance programs now in effect are the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program ("ADC") and the Supplemental Security Income Program ("SSI") for the aged, blind, and disabled.
- 2. "An individual is considered to be medically needy if he has income and resources which exceed the amount of income and resources allowed to the categorically needy but which are insufficient to meet the costs of necessary medical and remedial care and services."
 45 C.F.R. §248.1(a)(2).
- 3. See 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(10)(C).
- New York Social Services Law ("NYSSL") \$\$363-a, 366 (McKinney Supp. 1974-75).
- 5. NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8); New York Codes, Rules and Regulations ("NYCRR") §§360.5 and 360.7.
- 6. Primarily, 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1) and (2) (1974).
- 7. Primarily, 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(17).
- 8. The parties have stipulated that when this action began, plaintiffs were a family of three, but are now a family of two. For purposes of determining family size for income maintenance and eligibility purposes, a family member in chronic care "shall not be deemed to be a member of any household." NYCRR § 360.5(e).
- See NYSSL § 131-a(2) and (3); NYCRR
 § 352.2(e); 1975 Table of Local Agency
 Maximum Shelter Allowances with Heat, Exhibit A of Affidavit of Eleanor A. Sochocki,
 sworn to October 3, 1975.
- 10. Since the resulting figure for individuals and families of two is even lower than the SSI payment standard for individuals and two-person families, the SSI standard is used as the income retention level for these medically needy people. Federal law requires a State to set its income maintenance levels,

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for individuals and families of two, at the higher of the SSI and ADC payment standards. 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1)(ii)(B). See note 23 infra.

- 11. The two relevant state public assistance programs are contained in NYSSL §§345 through 358-c ("ADC") and §§ 207-212 ("SSI").
- 12. .. NYCRR \$\$ 360.5(e) and 360.7(a)(5).
- 13. But cf. Andrews v. Maher, Docket No. 75-7029 (2d Cir. October 24, 1975).
- 14. See, e.g., Hagans v. Lavine, 415 U.S. 528, 536-43 (1974); Edelman v. Jordan, 415 U.S. 651, 653 n.l (1974) (processing the claims of some applicants for welfare aid before those of similarly situated plaintiffs raises a not similarly insubstantial equal protection claim).
- 15. The parties have stipulated that defendants administer a medical assistance fund of some \$3,000,000,000 and that if plaintiffs are successful in this action, the financial impact on the state medical assitance budget will be in excess of \$10,000. Thus, plaintiffs claims arguably satisfy the \$10,000 jurisdictional amount requirement of 28 U.S.C. § 1331(a). See, e.g., Bass v. Rockefeller, 331 F. Supp. 945 (S.D.N.Y.), appeal dismissed as moot, 464 F.2d 1300 (2d Cir. 1971); Yanez v. Jones, 361 F. Supp. 701, 706 (D. Utah 1973); Moore v. Betit, 511 F.2d 1004, 1007 n.12

 Moore v. Betit, 511 F.2d 1004, 1007 n.12

 GI Rights v. Callaway, 518 F.2d 466, 472-73

 (D.C. Cir- 1975).

Plaintiffs may also satisfy the monetary requirement when t is viewed from the standpoint of future medical assistance payments. Cf. Moore v. Betit, supra at 1006.

16. Although the Supreme Court has left open the issues of whether all supremacy clause and \$ 1983 claims are cognizable under 28 U.S.C. \$ 1343(3) and/or (4), the Second Circuit has, at least temporarily, resolved those same issues against jurisdiction. See Andrews V. Maher, supra.

17. See, e.g., Hagans v. Lavine, supra at 543-45; Cordova v. Rect., pocket No. 75-7120 at 5469 (2d Cir. August 7, 1975).

Plaintiffs stated at oral argument that they would move to convene a three-judge court if the motion for summary judgment on their "statutory" claim is denied.

- 18. While the crux of plaintiffs' attack is on subdivision (1) of § 248.3(c), subdivision(2) is, in all strictness, more directly relevant since its concern is how much of a medically needy family's income can be "taken" to defray the costs of medical assistance. Subdivision (1) concerns itself with levels of income for eligibility purposes. None of the members of the class are complaining that rigibile for medical assistance they are because or unrawful income levels. subdivision (1) is only derivatively relevant to plaintiffs' case; that is, to construe "established level" in subdivision (2) requires interpreting subdivision (1) to see if the established level comports with the minimum requirements there.
 - 19. "The following income * * * shall be exempt and shall neither be taken into consideration nor required to be applied toward the payment or part payment of the cost of medical care and services * * * . (8) income in an amount set forth in the following schedule:

"Annual net income--Number of family members in a household and family members for whom they are legally responsible or have assumed responsibility

One \$2,500	Two \$3,400	Three \$4,000		Five \$5,700	\$ix .\$6,400 [\$6.500]	\$7,200
152.7001	[\$3,800]	[\$4,200]	[\$5,000]	[\$5,800]	[\$6,500]	14.14.00

"Such income exemptions shall be increased by six [seven] hundred dollars for each member of a family household in excess of seven."

Figures in brackets show the amount of exempt income as of October 1, 1975, to reflect recent amendments of § 366(2)(a)(8).

- 20. The same income allowances specified in NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8) appear in this regulation, which dictates how much of the "excess income" of a person in a medical institution can be "given" to his family for maintenance expenses. This is the relevant section when the medically needy family's income falls short of the allowance level and the hospitalized member of the family has income to contribute to the family.
- 21. Again, the same income allowances appear in this regulation as those specified in NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8). This regulation, rather than §360.5, applies when the spouse of a hospitalized person has income in excess of the income allowance level. Any income in excess of the appropriate level is to be contributed to the medical expenses of the hospitalized member NYCRR §360.7(a)(5). The overall effect of NYSSL §366(2)(a)(8) and NYCRR §§ 360.5 and 360.7 is to set the level of maintenance income that a medically needy family is allowed to live on.
- 22. Thus, for example, a family of two with a net available income of \$3,500 and medical expenses of \$99 would not be eligible for medical assistance because their income exceeds the \$3,400 level specified in the statute and regulations. Another family of two with net available income of \$5,000 and medical expenses of \$5,000 would be allowed to retain \$3,400 for maintenance expenses and required to contribute the remaining \$1,600 to the cost of medical assistance.
- 23. The defendants maintain that for a family of two, the payment standard under SSI (a flat grant system) is higher than the "ADC payment standard" (the standard computed under defendant's averaging methodology discussed below). Because the court rejects defendants' route to an assertedly valid ADC payment standard, and it is conceded that a family of two liwing in Rockland County and paying the same rent as plaintiffs would receive more under ADC than under the SSI program, the ADC program has the higher payment standard. For the remainder of this discussion, therefore, the amount of ADC payments will be considered the higher payment standard.

- 24. In some States, only a specified percentage of a family's standard of need is actually paid. See Rosado v. Wyman, 397 U.S. 397, 408-09 (1970). In New York, 100% of the standard of need is paid out in benefits. Thus, the standard of need and the payment standard are identical in New York's ADC program. See NYSSL \$131-a(3).
- 25. "The following schedule shall be the standard of monthly need for determining eligibility for all categories of assistance in and by all social services districts:

Number of Persons in Household

One Two Three Four Five Six

\$<u>94</u> \$<u>150</u> \$200 \$258 \$318 \$368

"For each additional needy person in the household there shall be added an additional amount of fifty dollars monthly.

"In addition to the above, the standard of need shall include amounts for shelter and fuel for heating * * *."

NYSSL \$131-a(2).

- 26. Id.
- 27. "A State plan for medical assistance must -* * * include reasonable standards (which
 shall be comparable for all groups and may, in
 accordance with standards prescribed by the
 Secretary, differ with respect to income levels,
 based on the variations between shelter costs
 in urban areas and in rural areas) for determining
 eligibility for and the extent of medical
 assistance under the plan which * * are
 consistent with the objectives of this
 subchapter * * *." 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(17).
- 28. See note 39 infra.
- 29. To be sure, an eligibility standard entailing cumbersome calculations and lengthy investigations would be out of step with the simplification philosophy of 42 U.S.C. § 1396a(a)(17) and 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1). But the ADC methodology is not such a standard. A family's shelter cost, up to the appropriate county maximum, can

Footnote 29 cont'd

be ascertained with fair case. As shown by the State's Budget Worksheet for Medical Assistance (Form DSS 517), each social service district must review and verify each claimant's assets and income before passing on his eligibility. Having applicants list their shelter costs and investigating the listed amount should not substantially increase the administrative task. Cf. Shapiro v. Thompson, 394 U.S. 618, 636 (1969).

- 30. See 2 CCH Medicare and Medicaid Guide ¶15,600, at 6558 (Michigan's medical assistance eligibility standard is expressed as a formula).
- 31. The federal ADC eligibility regulation requires that the eligibility standard be expressed in "money amounts." 45 C.F.R. § 233.20(a)(2). New York obviously did not view this language as a bar to setting up a variable ADC standard as evidenced by NYSSL § 131-a.
- 32. Plaintiffs contend that the income levels in NYSSL \$366(2)(a)(8) do not accurately reflect statewide shelter allowances even as increased effective October 1, 1975. The parties were to proceed to discovery on this issue if the court denied plaintiffs' summary judgment motion.
- 33. The parties do not cite, and the court has not found, any direct learning on the intended meaning of the phrase "generally used." We do know that an early draft of 45 C.F.R. § 248.3(c)(1) did not contain the "generally used" language at all. The draft specified that the medical assistance eligibility standard was to be, "as a minimum, at the level of the payment standard used as a measure of financial eligibility in the appropriate money payment program * * *." 38 Fed. Reg. 32219 (1973). The "generally used" language was added in response to comments that the draft language incorrectly implied that separate standards governed the aged, blind and disabled and families with dependent children. 39 Fed. Reg. 9512 (1974). The evolution of the phrase defendants invoke further demonstrates, if it. is necessary, the fallaciousness of their reasoning from

- 34. Many States, including New York, pay some welfare recipients more than the amount dictated by the generally applied payment standard for unusual or "special" expenses. See, e.g., NYSSL \$ 131-a(6).
- 35. Certain individuals who received aid under Titles I, X, XIV, or old XVI of the Social Security Act as of December 1973, were deemed to be eligible for SSI payments, notwithstanding incomes or resources exceeding the new eligibility level under SSI. 42 U.S.C. § 1382(g).
- 36. 45 C.F.R. § 248.21(a)(3)(i)(B) still applies to Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.
- 37. See, e.g., Almenares v. Wyman, 334 F. Supp.512 (S.D.N.Y.), aff'd 453 F.2d 1075, 1087 (2d Cir. 1971), cert. denied, 405 U.S. 544 (1972); Rosado v. Wyman, 397 U.S. 397, 406 (1970).
- 38. The HEW Compliance Report for the Quarter ending March 31, 1975, contains the following section:

"Medical Services Program

Medically Needy Level

45 CFR 248.3 (c) (1) (ii) (B) (2) Due to a series of factors, Section 1903(f) (1) (B)(i) SSA the cash assistance stnds.

Due to a series of factors, the cash assistance stnds. have become more liberal than the MA standards for most family sizes."

It is conceivable that HEW's criticism merely relates to the fact that New York's medical assistance standards have become too low in view of the gradual increase in shelter allowances under the cash assistance programs. Thus it may be that HEW is calling for an updating of the levels set in NYSSL § 366(2)(a)(8).

- 39. 42 U.S.C. \$1396a(10)(c)(i) arguably provides additional statutory authority for 45 C.F.R. \$248.3'c). See Dominguez v. Milliken, supra at 9119-21.
- 40. Referring to the "reasonable standards" language, the Report of the House Ways and Means Committee states in part:
 - " * * * the State plan must include such
 safeguards as may be necessary to assure
 that eligibility * * * will be determined * * *
 in a manner consistent with simplicity of

Footnote 40 cont'd

administration and the best interests of the recipient. This provision was included in order to provide some assurance that the States will not use unduly complicated methods of determining eligibility which have the effect of delaying in an unwarranted fashier the decision on eligibility for medical assistance. * * * Under this provision, the States will be eliminating unrewarding and unproductive policies and methods of investigation * * * ."

H.R. Rep. No. 213, 89th Cong., 1st Sess. 66 (1965).

41. The following passage indicates that Congress intended that the medically needy not be forced to live below the applicable public assistance subsistence level:

"In no event * * * may a State require the use of income or resources which would bring the individual's income below the amount established as the test of eligibility under the State plan. Such action would reduce the individual below the level determined by the State as necessary for his maintenance."

S. Rep. No. 404, 1 U.S. Code Cong. & Admin. News 1943, 2019 (1965). See also HEW Handbook of Public Assistance Administration, Supp.D. S D-4240 (A) (2) (1966).

- 42. See, e.g., <u>Haberman</u> v. <u>Finch</u>, 418 F.2d 664, 667 (2d Cir. 1969); <u>Gold</u> v. <u>HEW</u>, 463 F.2d 33, 41 (2d Cir. 1972).
- 43. See these observations in the course of hearings on Medicaid legislation by George K. Wyman, a former New York Commissioner of Social Services:

"The major cause of dependency in the United States is illness. Everyone agrees that the 'poorest of the poor,' those who receive public assistance, should have their medical care needs met. Also, most people believe we should prevent dependency if at all possible. Therefore it makes good, common sense to help those persons who are able to support themselves with food, clothing, and shelter but who need assistance

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Footnote 43 cont'd

with their medical care bills. This means we should help the workingman who is faced with a minuble medical bill, in order that with a minuble medical bill, in order that he will not have to mortgage his home, sell his car, or go into debt, in order sell his car, or go into debt, in order to pay the medical obligation, or, even worse, deplete himself of his resources to the point where he becomes a welfare recipient."

Hearings on H.R. 12080 Before the Senate Finance Committee, 90th Cong., 1st Sess., pt. 3, at 1547 (1967). Memorandum Opinion of the District Court re: Proposed Orders and Judgments

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

75 Civ. 1224

STEPHEN BERGER, et al.,

MEMORANDUM

Defendants.

FRANKEL, D.J.

The parties have submitted differing forms of orders and judgments, the differences reflecting two major issues:

- are entitled to so-called "future adjustments" to compensate for the period prior to the judgment during which, as they allege and the court's decision assertedly shows, they were entitled to retain higher amounts for maintenance than the state's medicaid provisions permitted them.
- (2) Whether the judgment now being entered should be stayed pending appeal.

The first of these issues creates problems of equitable remedies and sovereign immunity under the decisions in Rothstein v. Wyman, 467 F.2d 226, 232-38 (2d Cir. 1972), cert. denied, 411 U.S. 921 (1973) and Edelman v. Jordan, 415 U.S. 651 (1974). The concerns thus generated may be more complex and more difficult than the epistolary submissions of the parties on proposed orders would seem to suggest. Nevertheless, it appears to the court that, "nder the applicable law, plaintiffs are not entitled to the retroactive relief they label "future adjustments," at least not against any named defendant. Accordingly, the court's judgment will be limited to prospective injunctive and declaratory relief.

entirely unrelated, at least in the sense of its equitable impact. Resisting retrospective payments, the defendants' application for a stay would seemingly adjourn for some indefinite period any of the payments or allowances now determined to be required under this court's decision until the prosecution and decision of an appeal. Considering the relative burdens and the balances of hardship, and subject

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Whether all or any part of the claimed "future adjustments" might be recovered from the various counties in New York cannot be adjudicated in this action where no county or other municipal body was named as a defendant. Cf. Dunlop v. State of New Jersey, 522 F.2d 504, 515-16 (3d Cir. 1975).

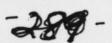
Memorandum Opinion

always to the wisdom of a higher tribunal, this court balances the pertinent considerations by denying the application for a stay.

Upon the foregoing premises, the court has concluded that the order and judgment submitted by defendants, as modified by the court, should be signed at this time to permit the prompt processing of any appeals.

Dated, New York, New York December 3, 1975

U.S.D.J.



Order and dgment of the District Court UNITED STATES D_STRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK MARION AITCHISON, et al., ORDER AND JUDGMENT Plaintiffs, 75 Civ. 1224 - against -STEPHEN BERGER, et al., Defendants.

This cause having come to be heard on plaintiffs' motion for susmary judgment under F.R.C.P. 56 on their third claim, as amended, alleging that New York Social Services Law \$ 366(2)(a)(8) and 13 New York Code, Rules, and Regulations §§ 360.5(e) and 360.7(a)(5) are inconsistent with 45 C.R.R. § 248.3(c)(1)(ii) and therefore invalid and for a class action order under F.R.C.P. 23; and on defendants' motion to dismiss the action under F.R.C.P. 12(b)(1) and (6) for want of a substantial constitutional question and, in the alternative, for summary judgment in their favor under the F.R.C.P. 56 on plaintiffs' third claim, as amended; and the Court having considered the pleadings, affidavits, stipulations, and memorandum of law submitted by the parties; and the Court having heard oral argument; and after due deliberation,

OFFERED that defendants' motions to dismiss for want of a substantial constitutional question, and, in the alternative, for summary judgment in their favor on plaintiffs' thid claim, as amended, be and the same hereby are denied; and it is further

having filed its opinion on November 12, 1975, it is

ORDERED that plaintiffs' motion for a class action order under F.R.C.P. 23 be and the same hereby is granted, said class to consist of all applicants for and recipients of medical assistance only who by reason of the application of New York Social Services Law § 366(2)(a)(8) and 18 NYCRR §§ 360.5(e) and 360.7(a)(5), retain less monthly exempt income than is paid to families of the same size, paying the same shelter cost (plus cost of fuel where applicable) and living in the same social services district who have qualified for categorical public assistance on the Aid to Families with Dependent Children

Order and Judgment of the District Court

program; and it is further

ORDERED that plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment be and the same hereby is granted to the extent herein after set forth; and it is further

ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that 45 C.F.R. \$248.3(c)(1) (ii), is declared consistent with 42 U.S.C. §§ 1396a(a)(17) and § 1396a (10)(c)(i) and therefore valid; and it is further

ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that New York Social Services Law \$ 366(2)(a)(8) and 18 NYCRR \$\$ 360.5(e) and 360.7(a) (5) are declared inconsistent with 45 C.F.R. \$ 248.3(c)(1)(ii) and therefore invalid as applied to the class; and it is further

ORDERED that defendants, their officers, agents, employees and successors in interest be and they hereby are permanently enjoined from enforcing New York Social Services Law § 366(2)(a)(8) and 18 NYCRR §§ 360.5(e) and 360.7(a)(5) against the class so as to permit said individuals to reconstruction of the same size, paying the same shelter cost is paid to families of the same size, paying the same shelter cost (plus cost of fuel where applicable) and living in the same social services district who have qualified for categorical public assistance on the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program; and it is further

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ORDERED that the retained exempt income of class members shall be recomputed in conformity with the provisions of this Order and Judgment within (days from the entry hereof; and it is further

ORDERED that defendant Stephen Berger, Commissioner of the New York State Department of Social Services, or the officers or employees of said Department shall transmit to the Commissioners of

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all social services district within the state instructions to 10 conform with the provisions of this Order and Judgment within 15 business days after the entry hereof; and it is further

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ORDERED that the enforcement of the provisions of this
Order and Judgment be and the same hereby are stayed pending the
state defendant's appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Second
Circuit on condition that said defendant file his Notice of
Appeal within 5 business days following the entry of this Order
and Judgment and that said defendant undertake before the Court of
Appeals to pursue an expedited appeal on such schedule as that
Court may direct.

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Dated: New York, New York
November 3 , 1975

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JAMICE AITCHISON, her children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

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-against-

STEPHEN BERGER, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York, and HOAH WEINBERG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York,

NOTICE OF APPEAL

75 Civ. 1224 (M.E.P.)

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Defendants.

Notice is hereby given that defendant STEPHEN BERGER, hereby appeals to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from the Order and Judgment of the HOMORABLE MARVIH E. FRANKEL, United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, in the above captioned action granting plaintiffs* motion for a class action and for summary judgment on their third claim, as amended; and declaring 45 C.F.R. \$ 248.3(c)(1)(ii), as applied to the class, c maistent with 42 U.S.C. \$5 1396a(a)(17) and 1396a(10)(c)(i); declaring Hew York Social Services Law \$ 366(2)(a)(8) and 18 New York Codes, Rules and Regulations \$\$ 360.5(e) and 360.7(a)(5), as applied to the class, inconsistent with 45 C.F.R. \$ 248.3(c)(1)(ii); permanently enjoining the enforcement of MYSSL \$ 366(2)(a)(3) and 18 MYCER 55 360.5(e) and 360.7(a)(5) against the class; and requiring recomputation of the retained exempt income of class members to conform with the terms of the Order and Judgment within 25 days from the entry thereof; and denying said defendant's motion to dismiss the action, or, in the alternative, for summary judgment on plaintiffs' third claim,

Notice of Appeal

as amended; and from each and every part of said Order and
Judgment.

The Order and Judgment was entered on or about
December 3, 1975.

Dated: New York, New York
December 5, 1975

Yours, etc.,

LOUIS J. LEPKOWITZ Attorney General of the State of New York By

JUNION A. CORDON
Assistant Attorney General
Actorney for Defendant Berger
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New City, New York 10956

Attorneys for Defendant Noah Weinberg Stipulation dated December 15, 1975 and Order modifying Order and Judgment of the District Court

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON, and JANICE AITCHISON, her children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,

DEC 23 1975

Plaintiffs,

-against-

STEPHEN BERGER, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York, and NOAH WEINEDRG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York,

STIPULATION TORE

75 Civ. 1224

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Defendants.

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the attorneys for the respective parties to the above captioned action that:

1. The Order and Judgment entered by the District
Court on December 3, 1975 be and the same hereby is amended and
modified by deleting from the seventh decretal paragraph
the number "25" and inserting instead the number "75," said
decretal paragraph, as amended and modified, to state as
follows:

"ORDERED that the retained exem to income of class members shall be recomputed in conformity with the provisions of this Order and Judgment within 75 days from the entry hereof; and it is further"

2. The 75 day period described in the seventh decretal paragraph of the Order and Judgment of the District Court, amended and modified as set forth in 1 above, shall

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Stipulation modifying Order and Judgment

start on December 3, 1975 and shall continue thereafter provided however that the running of said 75 day period shall be tolled by the issuance of any stay (or stays) in defendant's favor and the tolling of said 75 day period shall continue for the duration of said stay (or stays). The commencement of the 75 day period on December 3, 1975 is without prejudice to defendant's application to the district court to extend or otherwise modify said period in the event he does not prevail on the merits of his appeal(s) and/or that a stay (or stays) are not issued to protect the status quo as it existed prior to the entry of the Order and Judgment on December 3, 1975 (subject to the exception in favor of the named plaintiffs described in the affidavit of Judith A. Gordon, sworn to December 10, 1975, and filed on defendant's behalf in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit).

3. In the event the defendant does not prevail on his appeal(s) from the Order and Judgment of the District Court, he recognizes that his obligation to establish exempt income levels for medical assistance only recipients in conformity with said Order and Judgment arises as of December 3, 1975.

4. A Stipulation containing the same substantive provisions shall be executed and filed in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Dated: New York, New York December 15, 1975

RENE A. REIXACH, ESQ.

Greater Up-State Law Project Monroe County Legal Assistance Corp. 80 West Main Street

Rochester, New York

DOUGLAS GOOD, ESQ.

Rockland County Legal Aid Society Attorney for Plaintiffs

2 Congers Road New City, New York 10956

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Stipulation modifying Order and Judgment

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Order dated December 19, 1975 endorsed on Notice of Motion granting plaintiff's application to proceed in forma pauperis on appeal Index No. 75 Civ. 1224 Year 19 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK MARION AITCHISON, individually and on behalf of MICHAEL AITCHISON and JANICE AITCHISON, her children, and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated, - against -ABE LAVINE, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of the State of New York, and NOAH WEINBERG, individually and as Commissioner of the Department of Social Services of Rockland County, New York, Defendants. NOTICE OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL IN FORMA PAUPERIS LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCK. COUNTY, INC. Attorney for: Plaintiffs ALTON L. ABRAMOWITZ of counsel ROAD P.O. BOX 314 NEW CITY, NEW YORK 10956 TEL. (914) 634-3627 Attor (a) for Service of a copy of the within Dated: Attorney(s) for PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the within is a (certified) true copy of a entered in the office of the clerk of the within named court on ENTRY that an Order of which the within is a true copy will be presented for settlement to the Hon. one of the judges of the within named Court. NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT AF Dated: LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, INC. Attorney for: of coursel 2 CONGERS ROAD P.O. BOX 314 NEW CITY, NEW YORK 10956 Tu: Attorney(s) for